

Intimation.

Powell's
ALEXANDRA
BUILDINGS.

Now on Show.

NEW
GOODS.

FOR LADIES.

Parisian
Millinery.Untrimmed
Straws
and
Felts.Costumes,
Coats.Blouses,
Golf Jerseys,
Viyella
Shirts.Dress Skirts
and
Underskirts.Tweeds,
Voiles,
Eoliennes, etc.

FOR CHILDREN.

Frocks,
Tunics,Coats, Suits,
Hats, Shoes,
Hosiery,
Gloves, etc.POWELL'S
ALEXANDRA
BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 15th October, 1908.

Consignees.

S.S. "POLYNESIAN."

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London ex *Dauphine* and *Charente*, from Havre ex *Dauphine*, and from Bordeaux ex *Dauphine*, in connection with above Steamer are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables are being landed and stored at their risk in the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignees before 4 P.M. TO-DAY, requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned. Goods remaining unclaimed after MONDAY, the 19th inst., at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.

All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 19th inst., or they will not be recognized. All damaged packages will be examined on MONDAY, the 19th inst., at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

P. NALIN,
Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 12th October, 1908.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co's Steamer

"POONA."

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, MALTA, PORT SAID, SUEZ AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 6 hours.

Goods not cleared by the 19th October, at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognized.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.

F. J. ABBOTT,
Acting Superintendent.

Hongkong, 12th October, 1908.

"BEN." LINE OF STEAMERS.

S.S. "BENAVON."

FROM MIDDLESBRO, ANTWERP, LONDON AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk in the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark, and delivery may be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 20th inst. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 27th inst., or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 20th inst., at 11 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by CIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 11th October, 1908.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co's Steamer

"ASSAYE."

FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark, and delivery may be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo:—
From London, ex *S.S. China*,
From Calcutta, ex *S.S. Palawan*,
From Persian Gulf, ex *B.I.S.N.* and *B. & P. S. N. Co's* Steamers.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 6 hours.

Goods not cleared by the 21st inst., at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.

F. J. ABBOTT,
Acting Superintendent.

Hongkong, 15th October, 1908.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"LIGHTNING."

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed at once, at Consignees' risk and expense.

Cargo remaining on board after 2 P.M. of the 17th inst., will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense.

Consignees of Cargo from SINGAPORE and PENANG are requested to take IMMEDIATE DELIVERY of their Goods from alongside, such Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

DAVID SASSOON & CO., LIMITED,
Agents.

Hongkong, 15th October, 1908.

DR. SVEN HEDIN.

HIS SECOND JOURNEY IN THIBET.

The *Times* correspondent at Simla is sending to that journal an interesting narrative of Dr. Sven Hedin's recent explorations. Details of his discoveries on his first journey have already been published, but the story of his second journey, beginning on Dec. 1, 1907, remains to be told.

The Thibetans and Chinese authorities being fully alert, strategy alone could make possible any fresh exploration. An entirely fresh caravan was organized at Leh, in Kashmir, while the traveller halted at Dargu. This prevented any possible recognition by old attendants. The report was industriously spread that the caravan would follow the route to Peking through Khotan, and the story was believed by the Thibetan spies. The caravan, consisting of 11 men with 40 animals, and three months' supply of provisions, started north, but two days short of the Karakoram Pass turned due east.

HARDSHIPS OF THE JOURNEY.

The explorer immediately began to encounter hardships. Snow fell continuously and the animals began to die, but the Aksai Chin Lake was reached in January. There a connection was established with the observations made for a map on the first journey. Thereafter the difficulties increased; snow fell day and night, and the road became obliterated. The caravan was in terrible straits, and it seemed hopeless to expect to survive. The lowest temperature, —39.1 Centigrade, was registered on Jan. 15. Dr. Sven Hedin's feet were partly frozen, and all the sheep taken with them for food died. Eventually the party reached Shemotso, where Rawling had been. No sign of life? had been seen for 64 days, but friendly nomad hunters now provided the expedition with antelope and sheep. A march of 20 days to the east-south-east followed, Lemchang Lake being passed. Several goldfields were seen on this section of the route, but they were deserted, as the miners only work during the summer. Evidence of water channels for washing the gold out of the earth proved that the industry was carried on on a fairly large scale between latitudes 32 and 31. It is reported that a regular staff of Thibetan officials controls the mines.

INTO THE UNKNOWN.

A point had now been reached where a plunge into the unknown had to be made. Dr. Sven Hedin had so far travelled in European dress and furs, but at this stage everything indicating the nationality of the wearer was burned with the boxes containing the observation instruments. The latter, with the money, were hidden in bags of rice. The traveller assumed the guise of a common Ladakhi, painted his hands and face daily a dark colour, and whenever nomads were met drove the baggage and sheep as the inferior servant of the nominal head of caravan, Abdul Karim, a trustworthy man familiar with Thibet. Dr. Sven Hedin assumed the name of Hajj Baba. The appearance of Ladakhis in the winter aroused constant suspicion, but the story was told that a Ladakhi chief wished to buy wool in the summer and send thousands of sheep to the grazing ground. The nomads frequently asserted that a European was in the caravan, but discovery was always prevented. The unknown tract ended at Tongtso, just north of latitude 32, where the routes of Nain Singh, Ljaldale, and Sven Hedin himself in 1901 crossed, thus establishing fresh connection with past mapping. Dr. Sven Hedin then went along the northern edge of the great tract between latitude 30 and 32, stretching from his old route to the Brahmaputra, which was the great object of his journey. He marched due south, passing the enormous ice mountain of Sha angham on the east, from which flowed the big river, Thence he went over the Ladang pass into the open valley, and the Bongba province, which no European has ever entered, and whose name is almost unknown, lay open before him.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM DETECTION.

Precautions were here redoubled, as the encampments were constantly watched by Thibetans, who were always spying. Dr. Sven Hedin, dressed as a sheep driver, evaded suspicion, but his position became suddenly critical as a rich old merchant from Lhasa, who controls the whole of the wool trade, grew suspicious and sent word to the Governor. Dr. Sven Hedin was nearly detected making barometric observations, but he saved himself by running towards the hills, pretending to search for a strayed caravan of animals. The Governor failed to appear, and the march was diverted to the mountainous country.

Dr. Sven Hedin then discovered Lake Chualiso, following the west shore for a whole day. There he saw caravans of sheep carrying salt, and first heard of the great salt lake of Tabia Tsakha, which is a source of considerable wealth to the Government, the salt being exported in large quantities east and south, also into Nepal.

Two more ranges were crossed, and then the open plain was reached, bounded southwards by that great mountain range, 20,000 miles long, which stretches east and west. Dr. Sven Hedin was rewarded by discovering the continuity of the chain. When leaving Ladakh the explorer thought that he would be satisfied with exploring Bongba and testing the continuity of the range, afterwards reaching India via Nepal or Shigatse; but the success gained stimulated him to solve the problem of Chantatsango, a big affluent of the Brahmaputra. He found that its course had been wrongly marked on the maps. Chantatsango is fed from the huge snow peaks, a lake being formed whence the river reaches the Brahmaputra.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERIES.

In a further long telegram the correspondent continues his narrative:—
Journeying onwards, Dr. Sven Hedin found himself at last involved in difficulties with the Thibetan officials. While he was making the usual daily observations, a party of chiefs, with an armed escort appeared. They had orders, they said, to search the caravan. The usual story about their being Ladakhi traders was re-

peated contemptuously. "Hedin Sahib, who was sent back last year, is in your caravan. He has come back to do what he was forbidden to do last year. Write and sign a statement that no European is with you and take the responsibility." Those were the curt replies given to Abdul Karim's protestations. The Thibetans were encamped within a few yards of Dr. Sven Hedin's tent. The Ladakhis expressed a fear that he would be killed and suggested an escape, with the instruments and records, in the darkness.

A panic threatened, and Dr. Sven Hedin realised that the time had come boldly to declare himself. He went straight to the Thibetan camp fire and seated himself between two chiefs whom he knew, asking whether they recognised him. Surprise kept them silent for a moment, but soon the chiefs, polite but shy, insisted that he must go and see the Governor at Sakadong. Dr. Sven Hedin refused saying that he had accomplished the object of his journey in spite of the prohibition of the previous year, and he would proceed to Darjiling. A mutual agreement was reached, that he should meet the Governor at Semok. All proceeded there next day, April 24. The Governor inquired the object of his return contrary to orders, and suggested that Europeans visited Thibet in search of gold, though the country was poor. He knew Dr. Sven Hedin was a friend of the Tashi Lama, and therefore welcomed him, but the standing instructions of Lhasa had to be obeyed.

It appeared that the Chinese mandarin stationed at Mingri, on the Nepal frontier, with 200 soldiers, had orders not only to forbid Europeans to enter Thibet, but to stop Gurkhas and other persons, and in case of refusal or resistance the Chinese soldiers would turn them out. Dr. Sven Hedin saw the significance of these orders, for Mingri was the scene of a battle in which the Chinese had defeated the Gurkhas and invaded Nepal. Now they evidently regarded it as the principal entrance from Nepal to Thibet. Further conversation showed that the Chinese and Lhasa are more than ever determined to keep Thibet closed, especially to Europeans. The Thibetans are compelled to yield obedience to this policy of exclusion. Dr. Sven Hedin resolutely refused to retrace his steps or to travel by the trade road to Ladakh. If he were killed, the Governor, he said, would suffer afterwards. The negotiations ended in a compromise, the caravan being split up, on the understanding that the parties should meet again.

DISCOVERIES IN BONGBA PROVINCE.

Dr. Sven Hedin left Bis on May 5, with his attendants and an armed escort on thoroughly good terms. The caravan having been provisioned, he saw a chance of further exploration in the Bongba province. He travelled due north, crossing a pass of 19,000 feet in the Great Range, and made for Lake Fedem, the existence of which Nain Singh, reported in 1873, its real name being Terapan. He found the lake to be long, narrow, and salt, and entirely different from his representation on the map.

He then turned westward and visited the Mending temple, situated on the bank of the Somahango, the largest river in Thibet, without outlet to the ocean. He failed to meet the main body of the caravan, but travelled in Thibetan dress, quite unmolested, by a route west-south-west. Crossing a range 20,000 feet high, he reached Khela, shown on the maps as a great peak, but really a pass in a high range running from the main system. He then came to Ghalaringto, which is described in the maps as containing a monastery on an island. Its real name is Ngan, Larungto, and there are five islands. The shape given in the maps is wrong, as it runs east and west and is intersected by three rivers. The explorer crossed the Great Range for the tenth time, and reached Mansarawar on July 26, and thence by known roads made his way to Simla.

GEOGRAPHICAL RESULTS.

Geographically the two explorations are of the highest value. The bland space north and south of the inland lake region has been traversed and the mystery of Bongba has been solved. Bongba, though one of the greatest provinces of Thibet, has never before been visited by Europeans. The new map of Thibet will be of 900 sheets, which proves the extent of the exploration. All the heights of the passes, the river crossings, and the encampments are recorded; a hundred astronomical points have been fixed; several thousand panoramas have been taken, with compass bearings and names. Dr. Sven Hedin has brought back photographs, pencil drawings, and water colours. Meteorological observations were made three times daily, and the explorer has geological specimens, with the dip and fall of the rocks, from 1,200 different points. The total length of his journeys was 4,000 miles. There are practically no new fresh discoveries left in the heart of Thibet.

THE EXPLORER ON HIS ACHIEVEMENTS.

Dr. Sven Hedin sums up the results of his explorations as follows:—

My great discoveries are:—First, the true sources of the Brahmaputra and Indus, and the genetic source of the Sutley east of Mansarwar Lake. Secondly, the exploration of Bongba, which I traversed twice by different routes. But the greatest of all is the discovery of that continuous mountain chain which, taken a whole, is the most massive range on the crust of the earth, its average height, above sea level, being greater than that of the Himalayas. Its peaks are 4,000 ft. to 5,000 ft. lower than Everest, but its passes average 3,000 ft. higher than the Himalayan passes. The eastern and western parts were known before, but the central and highest part is in Bongba, which was previously unexplored. Not a tree or a bush covers it; there are no deep-cut valleys, as in the Himalayas, for rain is scanty. The absolute heights remain to be calculated from observations made on the ten passes, which I crossed.

There is no doubt that this is a correct estimate of Dr. Sven Hedin's greatest discovery, which will excite the highest interest of geographers. He proposes calling the chain the Trans-Himalaya Range, a name which meets with the approval of the Viceroy, as one of the first to hear the extent of the discovery.

Intimations.

TONIC, RESTORATIVE, DIGESTIVE WINE
Very palatable.

Known throughout the world and prescribed in all cases of Anemia, Debility and Convalescence, to young women, children and the aged. Invaluable in hot climates.

DOSE: One wine-glass after the two principal meals.

Each bottle of genuine VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL bears, in addition to the registered trade-mark:

(1) The WARRANTY STAMP of the UNION DES FABRICANTS.

(2) A METAL SEAL advertising CLETEAS.

CLETEAS is a MELISSA and MINT cordial which surpasses all others by its purity and faultless preparation. To be taken on a lump of sugar. COMPAGNIE du VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL, Valence (Drôme-France). U10288K MAJOR EGOR & Co., Hongkong.

THE IMPERIAL COLONIAL CLUB.

THE above Club is formed chiefly for COLONIAL and OVER-SEAS MEMBERS; it is situated at No. 81, Piccadilly (the centre of Clubland), opposite the Green Park.

The Club has a Bridge Section, Reception, Dining, Billiard Room, Smoking Lounge, Reading Room and Library.

Ladies are eligible as Members. Entrance Fee, Five Guineas, Annual Subscription, Five Guineas.

Further particulars from THE ORGANISING SECRETARY 84, Piccadilly, W. London, 19th August, 1908. (76)

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m.	7.30 a.m.	8.00 a.m.	8.30 a.m.	9.00 a.m.	9.30 a.m.	10.00 a.m.	10.30 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	11.30 a.m.	12.00 p.m.	12.30 p.m.	1.00 p.m.	1.30 p.m.	2.00 p.m.	2.30 p.m.	3.00 p.m.	3.30 p.m.	4.00 p.m.	4.30 p.m.	5.00 p.m.
Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	Every 10 minutes	

NIGHT CARS.

8.45 p.m.	9.00 p.m.	9.15 p.m.	9.30 p.m.	9.45 p.m.	10.00 p.m.	10.15 p.m.	10.30 p.m.	10.45 p.m.	11.00 p.m.	11.15 p.m.	11.30 p.m.	11.45 p.m.	12.00 p.m.	12.15 p.m.	12.30 p.m.	12.45 p.m.	1.00 p.m.	1.15 p.m.	1.30 p.m.	1.45 p.m.
Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m.	8.30 a.m.	9.00 a.m.	9.30 a.m.	10.00 a.m.	10.30 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	11.30 a.m.	12.00 p.m.	12.30 p.m.	1.00 p.m.	1.30 p.m.	2.00 p.m.	2.30 p.m.	3.00 p.m.	3.30 p.m.	4.00 p.m.	4.30 p.m.	5.00 p.m.	5.30 p.m.	6.00 p.m.
Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	Every 15 minutes	

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days, SATURDAYS. Extra cars at 3.15 p.m., 11.30 p.m. and 11.45 p.m.

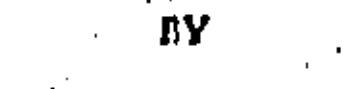
SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, Des Voeux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON, General Managers, Hongkong, 4th Floor, 1097.

Telegrams: "Cyclometer." Telephone: 482.

CYCLE MANUFACTURERS

BY



ROYAL WARRANTS

TO

H.M. KING EDWARD VII. AND H.R.H. PRINCE OF WALES.

HUMBER

CYCLES.

SOLE AGENTS—

DRAGON CYCLE

DEPOT,

HEAD OFFICE and SHOW

ROOMS,

38-35, Des Voeux Road, Central, Hongkong.

HONGKONG ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL, 30.11.08. AND THREE PRACTICE DANCES.

SCOTSMEN desiring to subscribe to the above are requested to forward their names to the undersigned.

DAVID WOOD, Hon. Secretary, Hongkong, 3rd October, 1908. [890]

INTERNATIONAL SLEEPING CAR

and EXPRESS TRAINS Co.

(THE GREAT TRANS-SIBERIAN ROUTE TO EUROPE.)

HAVING been appointed AGENTS for the above Company, we shall be pleased to give any information as to rates of passage, &c., in connection with above.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co. Agents, Hongkong, 1st July, 1907. 147

FRENCH STORE

(late A. Chazalon & Co.), 6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

HAVE just received a Fresh Assortment of AMERICAN GOODS comprising the following:—

SALT HERRINGS, MACKERELS, SALMON BELLIES, CADFISH, BLOCKS, SPICED NORWEGIAN, ANCHOVIES, SARDELLES, CANNED FRUITS, ASPARAGUS, &c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, 22nd August, 1908. 150

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net \$5.50 per Cask ex Factory.

In Bags of 550 lbs. net \$3.45 per Bag ex Factory.

SHEWAN TOMES & Co., General Managers, Hongkong, 15th August, 1908. 151

MUSIC LESSON.

LESSONS in Violin, Mandoline and Guitar at pupils' residences.

Evening engagements for D

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

AERATED WATER
MANUFACTURERS.

THIS SEASON'S SPECIALITIES:—

Lime Fruit
Champagne,
Dry Ginger Ale,
Lemon Squash,
Champagne Cider,
Orange Champagne.WATSON'S
FRUIT SYRUPSMixed with Aerated or plain
water makeDELICIOUS COOLING
DRINKS.Guaranteed to be made from the
PURE JUICE OF SOUND RIPE
FRUIT.A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

HONGKONG, CHINA AND MANILA.

ESTABLISHED 1841.

Hongkong, 29th September, 1908.

NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in
"THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be
addressed to The Editor, 1, Ice House Road, and
should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and
Address.Ordinary business communications should be addressed
to The Manager.The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for
any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE).

DAILY—\$80 per annum.
WEEKLY—\$18 per annum.
The rate per quarter and per month, proportional.
The daily issue is delivered free when the address is
accessible to messenger. On copies sent by post an
additional \$1.00 per quarter is charged for postage.
The postage on the weekly issue in any part of
the world is 30 cents per quarter.Single Copies, Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-
five cents.

MARRIAGE.

On August 15, 1908, at St Michael's Church,
Aberystwyth, PETER THOMAS, second son of
the late Peter Thomas of Liverpool and Man-
chester, to BESSIE MAY, second daughter of
Mrs. W. R. Wild, York Place, Whitworth Park,
Manchester.

DEATH.

On October 11, 1908, at Shanghai, GEORGINA
MARY TIPP, beloved wife of Jas. A. Tipp, I.M.
Customs, Hankow, aged 32 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1908.

HONGKONG "STAGE-PLAYS."

Owing mainly to the interest aroused in the
Estimates, the Bill entitled "An Ordinance
for regulating theatres and other places of
public resort," which was read a third time
at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative
Council and comes into operation on the
15th of December next, has passed prac-
tically unnoticed. There can be no doubt,
however, regarding the importance and neces-
sity of this fresh addition to the statute
book and the only wonder is that its
utility was not previously recognised. For
months past the people of Hongkong
have been supporting at least three
cinematograph entertainments which are
nightly patronised by large audiences, com-
posed of all sections of the community.
These shows are held in buildings which,
subject to correction, are scarcely suited for
this class of entertainment and it has fre-quently occurred to us that in the event of a
sudden stampede for any reason there would
be serious danger to a large proportion of
the audience. No doubt most of those who
have visited and enjoyed the display of films
—and that, we should fancy, included the
majority of the younger generation—were
under the impression that the buildings
came within the special jurisdiction of one
or other of the Government departments
and had been duly licensed in accordance
with the practice followed in other countries.
For that reason, the fact that the exits
and the general configuration of the
halls, together with the seating arrange-
ments, were not exactly suited to permit
of easy egress in case of alarm was over-
looked, in the belief that everything had been
done to meet the approval of the authorities.
It must therefore have come as a surprise to
most people to learn from the Attorney-Gen-
eral that the Government had no power, what-
ever of supervision over these entertainments
and that, indeed, the promoters had an
entirely free hand in making what arrange-
ments they considered desirable. When
one remembers the dangers which attach to
the use of the cinematograph even under the
best conditions it is appalling to think of
what might have happened, had anything
unfavourable occurred during one of the per-
formances. We may be wrong, of course,
and we make no claim to omniscience, but
it has seemed to us that the wooden
structures which are situated on Des
Vaux Road are but ill adapted for the
seating of large audiences. The
exits are narrow and inconvenient and the
seating conditions of so complicated a
nature that in the event of a rush for the
doors the weak would have but a poor
chance of reaching the street. That is not
saying anything against the character of the
performances, for there are far too few places
of amusement in Hongkong as it is, and
that these cinematograph exhibitions are an
attraction is amply proved by the large num-
bers who seek relaxation and pleasure in be-
holding them. But the fact remains that the
safety of the public is a prime consideration
and one which it is the duty of the Govern-
ment to regard and preserve. Under the new
Ordinance, it is laid down that from and
after the 15th of December "it shall not be
lawful for any person to have or keep any
building, matched or other place of public
resort for the public performance of stage
plays without a licence granted as hereafter
provided under a penalty not exceeding two
hundred dollars for every day on which
such building or place shall have been so
kept open for the purpose aforesaid." The
term "stage-play" is wide enough to cover
"every tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, bur-
letta, interlude, melodrama, pantomime,
cinematograph display, exhibition of dan-
cing, conjuring, juggling, acrobatic perfor-
mance, boxing contest, circus, concert or other
entertainment of the stage or any part there-
of." In moving the second reading of the
Bill, the Attorney General concisely explained
how the licence necessary would be issued
by the police or other authority and that the
time during which these licences would be
operative would appear on them. This was
necessary, he explained, having regard to the
different forms of public performances which
in some cases may last a week or one night.
The licence will be subject to certain safe-
guards which are enumerated in the Bill,
such as the materials of the building, the
seating accommodation, exits, overcrowding,
provisions against fire, and inspection
by the police. Clause 3 of the Ordinance
vests power in the Governor-in-Council
to make regulations to meet all the neces-
sary conditions which will be precedent
to the granting of a licence. Fees will be
prescribed in respect to each licence, and
will have regard to the length of time for
which the licence is obtained. There is no
idea of imposing restrictive conditions on
the promoters of these entertainments, all
that is required being that the safety of the
public shall be ensured. The measure will,
we feel certain, commend itself to everybody,
even to those specially affected, because it
will to a large extent relieve them from re-
sponsibility in the matter of exits and pro-
vision against fire or other contempts.PLAGUE PREVENTION IN
HONGKONG.To judge from the proceedings at the last
meeting of the Sanitary Board it would seem
that the Government is not yet entirely con-
vinced that the eradication of plague through
the destruction of infected rats by means of
specially imported cats is an absolute pan-
acea. Indeed, the theory that if a number of
cats of guaranteed ferocity and an assured
punch for rats were introduced into the
Colony plague would disappear, in rather
less than no time almost seems to be on
the point of being discarded. That would
be a pity after all we have been told
about what cats can do when they are of the
hunting variety. Nobody who has followed
the discussions on this subject at the San-
itary Board can have failed to mark the
enthusiasm with which the higher officials
regarded the employment of the semi-
domestic feline as plague-preventers, and
even His Excellency the Governor in his
minute to the Board waxed eloquent infavour of the idea. It is true that sceptics
who do not belong to the official world
viewed the prospect with some misgivings,
but of course their opinion does not count
in really important affairs. And now, it may
be asked, what reason is there for the belief
that the cat proposition has apparently
lost its savour? The answer is to be found
in the latest minute by the Governor on the
plague question. He quotes the Principal
Civil Medical Officer as saying that "good
rating cats avoid plague rats"—which
seems to touch the kernel of the whole
matter. But the argument is submitted
that the presence of the cats scares the
plague disseminators into the drains and
sewers where they promptly give up the
ghost apparently in disgust because they are
prevented from pursuing their usual avoca-
tion. Not being experts in the matter we
dare not offer any comment on this
aspect of the case, but we certainly have
our doubts regarding the ultimate destination
of the rodents after they have been scared
off domestic premises. It is also stated by
the P.C.M.O. that cats are liable to
contract plague, but cat fleas do not transmit
the disease to human beings "so that it
matters little even if a few cats do contract
plague." Now, if that is a proved and well-
established fact there is nothing to say against
the employment of plague-stricken cats to
chase away plague-propagating rats; but if
it is only a pious opinion based on nothing
beyond the wish being father to the thought
then a new and serious factor is imported into
the consideration of this question. Again,
there is a suggestion that Hongkong cats have
not the same domestic habits as those in Eng-
land, but in what respect they differ we are
not told. From all this it would appear to
be perfectly clear that the introduction of a
host of cats which are liable to contract
plague, which refuse to catch plague-infected
rats and whose habits are problematical
is fraught with the utmost danger to the
community and the result may once more
show the recklessness of those who at-
tempt to overturn the balance of nature
without adequate reason. That the Gov-
ernment is somewhat dubious as to
the advisability of making Hongkong a
sort of general home for stray and parish
cats is evident from the Governor's minute
to the Sanitary Board in which His Ex-
cellency sought to obtain the opinion of that
body on the subject of starting a campaign
against rats by the use of poison. We are
thoroughly convinced that if the Govern-
ment could secure a poison which would
effectually decimate the rat tribe, while, at
the same time, it was not deleterious to the
human system that would be the real solution
of the difficulty. If we remember rightly,
it is claimed for a substance known as Ratin
that it contains these properties, but unfor-
tunately it is of such a volatile nature that
within a few weeks of its manufacture it has
lost its active qualities. However, the
Governor stated in his minute that the
Government has "inquired from India what
they considered to be the best poison and
what precautions they have found to be use-
ful to adopt to prevent children and domestic
animals from being injured by the poison,
and when we receive their report the Sanitary
Department will have high authority to guide
them in their methods of conducting the
campaign. It will be for them to decide the
class of poison to be used and the method
in which it should be used so as to avoid
danger. It will also be for them to decide
at what time it would be best to issue the
poison and begin the campaign." Until
that report is published we can only rest in
hope that some satisfactory method will be
devised whereby the end aimed at will be
attained without endangering the lives of the
ignorant classes.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The French Mail of the 15th September was
delivered in London on the 14th inst.A GAMBLING house at 7, Wing Sing Street was
raided last night by Inspector O'Sullivan, and
seventeen coolies were captured, after the usual
stampede. They were charged and convicted
in the Police Court, this morning, each defend-
ant having to pay \$1.It is with the deepest regret, says the *Hankow*
Daily News of the 8th inst., that we have to
record the death, which occurred yesterday of
Mr. K. Arakami, manager of the Yokohama
Specie Bank. The deceased, who has been a
resident of Hankow for only three months,
succumbed to typhoid fever.ANOTHER person has been arrested at Han-
kow on a charge of forgery. Apparatus, also
types and plates for forging Hupeh Government
banknotes were found in his possession, says
the *Hankow Mail*, and all of them were
Japanese made. The arrest was effected at Tat-
chi-men by native soldiers.FOUR street coolies were arraigned this morn-
ing before Mr. J. H. Kemp, in the Police Court,
charged with stealing three pairs of European
trousers and a bed sheet, valued at \$9, from
the Steam Laundry. The larceny was alleged
to have been committed between July 14th and
15th instant, and although evidence was ad-
duced the charge could not be substantiated.
Three of the defendants were discharged. The
other man, who was in possession of the articles,
was found guilty of unlawful possession, and
sentenced to 14 days in default of fourteen days' work.

The Interport Shoot.

WEATHER MILITATES AGAINST
GOOD SHOOTING.

HONGKONG'S TOTAL 902.

The above shoot, which had unavoidably to
be postponed from Wednesday owing to unfav-
ourable weather, took place this afternoon at
King's Park Range, Kowloon. The light was very
unfavourable to good shooting, and when the
unsettled state of the weather is considered,
Hongkong's performance cannot be said to be
bad. There is no question that, had the shoot
taken place under more auspicious conditions,
the Hongkong team would have given a far better
account of themselves. Be that as it may, not-
withstanding their great handicap, those chosen
to represent Hongkong for interport honours
did full justice to themselves. Lapsley and Gow
shot excellently, both heading the list with a
total of 97 to their credit. Jenkins, Hall, Mun-
ros and Paddon were also in good form, their
scores being 92, while Pidgeon and McGilivray
came in for third place with 89 points each to
their credit. The outstanding feature of
the meeting was steady shooting. Pidgeon,
Gow and Hall started their score with a
bull's eye. The wind slightly altered its
course at the 500 yards range, but this was
compensated for by the clouds clearing some-
what. The result of the meeting thus places
Hongkong 35 points below Singapore's score
and 21 points below that of Shanghai.The results of the afternoon's shooting are as
follows:—

	200	300	400	500	600	Total
J. C. Gow	33	31	33	97		
R. Lapsley	32	33	31	97		
Chief Petty Officer						
Paddon (Tanner)	31	30	29	90		
Lance-Sergt. Munros	30	30	30	90		
A. Jenkins	29	33	28	90		
Sergt. Hall	31	33	26	90		
J. Pidgeon	31	28	29	89		
Capt. G. P. Lammet	32	29	28	89		
J. P. McGilivray	29	34	26	89		
Col. Sergt. Wright	30	24	29	83		
Total	303	335	288	902		

The officials for the afternoon were Lieut.
Col. Chapman, Hongkong Volunteer Corps,
and Mr. G. H. Wakeman.

SHANGHAI'S SCORE.

The Shanghai team shot for the Interport
Challenge Shield yesterday (Oct. 12) afternoon,
but failed badly. After the dull light and
steady winds of the past few weeks, yesterday's
conditions called for material alteration in
elevation and windage. The light was bright
but there was a most guilty wind from the
north-east. Nearly all the members of the
team were considered good for 95 or 96
in ordinary circumstances, but there was a
general break-down, and particularly at the
600 yards range. Linde, who had scored for
the previous day in the practice match, fell
back to 86, and Lynch, who can usually be
relied upon for a score of at least 31 per range,
could only aggregate 29. Brand had bad luck
as his score of 30 at 500 yards included one
miss.

The scores were:—

	200	300	400	500	600	Total
T. H. U. Aldridge	33	31	32	96		
W. Brand	35	30	32	95		
P. W. Mackintosh	35	32	29	91		
Capt. E. M. Barrett	31	32	30	93		
Hilton Johnson	30	33	30	93		
G. Richards	33	30	30	93		
P. W. Lancaster	31	30	31	92		
W. E. Sacer	33	32	27	92		
E. H. Lynch	29	30	30	89		
H. J. Linde	30	30	26	86		
Total	316	310	297	913		

—N. C. D. News.

PEOPLE owning ponies at Kowloon must un-
derstand that the streets were not made to
accommodate them. At about one o'clock on
the morning of the 10th instant, while Police-
man Pincoit was on duty along Des Vaux
Road, he came across two ponies grazing on
the roadside. The animals were taken to the
Water Police Station, and were later claimed
by their owners—H. Lee, of Lochiel Terrace,
and 11 Pigg, 12, Temple Street North; Yau-
my-ti. These two gentlemen were summoned
in the Police Court, to-day, and each had to
pay a fine of a dollar.A COOLIE, Tsai Chin, of 17, Aberdeen Street,
was stopped in the street at about eight o'clock
last night by a *lukong*. Tsai was carrying a
bundle. Suspecting something, the *lukong*
demanded to see the contents. Tsai, only too
willing to oblige, placed the bundle on the
ground, and revealed, to the amazed officer,
the dead body of a three months' old male
child, which, it was alleged, he was taking out
to dump on the roadside. This morning Tsai
was charged in the Police Court, with removing
a dead body for burial without the sanction of
the Sanitary Board. The case was remanded
to find out whether the child had died from any
contagious disease.In its finished state, the smaller of the two
stones into which the King's Cullinan diamond
has been divided at Amsterdam weighs 330
carats more than the "Excelsior," the largest
diamond hitherto known. It is bluish-white in
colour, and of peerless beauty and purity. The
remarkable thickness of the stone allowed for
the cutting of hundreds of facets between the
"table" and the apex, giving an unparalleled
refraction and polarisation. The other Cullinan
stone, which will be ready before Christmas,
is expected to weigh 650 carats, and will be worth
£5,000,000. Among the "splinters" from it are
several fine stones, one weighing 100 carats and
valued in its present state at £2,000.

Floods in Kwangtung.

THE SUNNING AND HOIPING
DISASTER.

CANTON RELIEF MEASURES.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 15th October.

When I wrote yesterday about the abnormal
rise of the river in the Sunning and Hoiping
districts, little did I think of the gravity of the
disaster by floods which had overtaken those
districts of the Kwangtung Province. The
concise telegrams which reached the com-
mittee of the Central Flood Relief Society
could not, of necessity, contain all the details
of the calamitous floods. The messages
stated the bare fact of the unfortunate occur-
rence and pleaded urgently for aid which
was required by the homeless thousands whose
homes had been swept away by the relentless
force of the sweeping current. Although the
present visitation is not to be compared with
that of April last, in point of superficial area,
the districts immediately affected furnish
equally harrowing tales in point of the suffering
and misery of the peasantry. Whole villages
have been swept away; towns after towns on the
low-lying land have been submerged; and
countless numbers are taking refuge on house-
tops awaiting rescue with the despair born
of imminent death. This, in brief, is the
narrative which has been brought to the head-
quarters of the Canton Relief Society by one of
the survivors of Nature's frightful visitation to
ward off which physical force stands for the
nonce perfectly helpless.The emissaries of the districts of Hoiping
and Sunning personally called on the Central
Relief Committee here and recounted their
terrible experiences with tearful eyes, giving
the Committee in detail all information con-
cerning the flood now prevailing in their dis-
tricts. They stated that the rivers rose some
twenty feet high and the water overflowed the
embankments inundating the whole country
around. As advised in my telegram yesterday,
the market-places of San-cheung, Cheung-sha
and Pih-hoi have been flooded. The houses are
almost all submerged, and the people had to
climb up the roof for their safety. The har-
rowing scenes of hundreds crowding on house-
tops clamouring piteously for help is distress-
ing in the extreme; and no help could be
forthcoming. The inhabitants of Sunning are a
well-to-do lot of people, comprised mostly of
returned emigrants from California. Dead
bodies have been seen floating on the rivers;
at present the number of lives lost and that of
houses, which have collapsed cannot be
estimated with any degree of accuracy, but it
is safe to reckon them at a high figure. One
village alone with some two hundred houses
in it has been partially swept away. Much
the greater portion of it is not now in existence.
By comparison the first named district suffered
more than the second.

HELP FROM CANTON.

Three relief parties have been organized by
the Flood Relief Committee whose commend-
able promptitude in despatching assistance to
the sufferers is deserving of all praise. Three
steam launches have been chartered in pursu-
ance of the relief measures. The first to pro-
ceed to the scene of disaster is the *Kwong*
Hang carrying 8,000 gunny bags, 20,000 cattie
of rice and other articles of diet. This expedi-
tion is under the charge of Mr. Lau Kan Ting
and some other members of the committee. The
second launch to proceed is the *Lum Wing*;
she carries 44 baskets of biscuits, 1,300 gunny
bags and other provisions, under the direction
of Mr. Tang Yu Sang and others. The third
expedition is the best equipped of the lot. The
party proceed by the steam-launch *Po On*
laden with 50,000 cattie of rice, 4 baskets of
biscuits, 8 baskets of preserved vegetables, 8
baskets of cakes and salt, etc. Mr. Li Yat Chu,
assisted by a number of volunteer rescuers,
commenced this expedition. Others are rarely
to follow as soon as further assistance arrives
from Hongkong.

THE WEST RIVER.

The embankments in the Shiu Hing pre-
fecture are reported to have been broken in
four places and all the rice fields are said to be
under water.Timber rafts are now drifting on the West
River being carried down stream by the strong
currents. These derelict rafts are a source of
danger to vessels navigating the river.

THE RED CROSS SOCIETY.

The Chinese Red Cross Society has also de-
puted some of its members to proceed to the
Sunning and Hoiping districts to render me-
dical assistance to the sufferers and to distri-
bute medical comforts to those in need.

APPEAL TO HONGKONG.

The Shao Hou Chu has been approached for
a gunboat to conduct a rescuing expedition to
the flooded districts.A telegram was despatched to the Tung Wa
Hospital at Hongkong requesting joint assis-
tance with the Central Relief Committee in the
organisation of the relief measures which it had
already hurriedly devised in order to render
first aid. There is every confidence that the
well-to-do classes in the British Colony will
maintain their best traditions and show them-
selves in thorough sympathy with their com-
patriots in distress.[The sympathy which Canton expected has
taken practical form. As exclusively announced
in our columns last evening, the director of the
Tung Wa Hospital held an emergency meeting
yesterday afternoon to consider the urgent ap-
peals from Canton and Hongkong for help.
The meeting unanimously agreed to remit
by last night's Canton boat a sum of \$50,000
which the Central Committee at Canton was
requested to distribute in the most judicious
manner towards the relief measures.—Ed.
(H. K. T.)]

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH"
SERVICE.

ANTI-OPIMUM CAMPAIGN.

SUPPRESSION OF THE TRADE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 15th October.

The Board of Civil Affairs has fixed

the period for the suppression of the
opium trade at seven years.[Presumably from the date of the issue of the
famous edict in 1905.—Ed. (H. K. T.)]The Ministry of Finance has recommended
to the Throne, and obtained the Imperial
sanction for, a proposal to prohibit the cultiva-
tion of the poppy in the following six provinces
beginning with the latter portion of this
year:—Kiangsu, Anhui, Honan, Yunnan, Fu-
kien and Heilungkiang. The memorial
further states that as foreign opium is
almost entirely consumed by the population of
the South-eastern provinces of the Empire, the
prohibition of native opium, the question of
prohibiting the smoking of the drug is even
more important than the prohibition of poppy
cultivation in those provinces. The cultivation
of the plants in other provinces of the Empire
will be considered in due course, after the
carrying out of the Imperial commands with
regard to the six provinces named above.—N.
C. D. News.

EX-VICEROY SHUM.

PROBABLE RETURN TO OFFICE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 15th October.

It is rumoured that Shum Chuen-
hsen, Ex-Viceroy of Canton, has
every chance of being recalled to the
sphere of official activity again.CANTON-HANKOW
RAILWAY.

INVESTIGATION ORDERED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 15th October.

The Ministry of Posts and Com-
munications has telegraphed to Can-
ton to cause an investigation to be
made into, and a report to be submit-
ted on, the alleged corruption said to
exist among the officers controlling the
administration of the Canton-
Hankow Railway.

THE AMERICAN FLEET.

ARRIVAL OF CHINESE COMMIS-
SIONERS AT SHANGHAI.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Shanghai, 15th October.

Yuk Long and Ieung Tun In,
the two Imperial Commissioners
deputed to welcome the American
Fleet at Amoy, have arrived at
Shanghai.

THE DALAI LAMA.

FUTURE STATUS IN TIBET.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 15th October.

It is proposed by the Imperial
Government to appoint the Dalai
Lama as the Buddhist Pope in Tibet.
He shall not, however, exercise
any power over the civil adminis-
tration of the Government.

CRICKET.

CRAIGENGOWER V. ROYAL ENGINEERS.

This league match will take place at the
Happy Valley (Military Ground) on Saturday
at 2.15 p.m. The following will represent the
Craigengower Cricket Club:—E. Lammer-
(Capt.), G. A. Hancock, R. Bass, A. O. Brown,
R. Fenton, H. L. Manderson, G. Evans, M.
E. Asger, L. A. Rose, Dr. F. H. Kew, and W.
V. Vivash. Reserve—P. Corrie.

CIVIL SERVICE C. & O. A.

The following will represent the C.S.C.C. on
their ground at 2.15 p.m. to-morrow:—A. R. F.
Raven, captain; F. R. Adams, L. E. Brett, C.
F. Burdett, H. Coombs, E. W. Dawson, H.
Ellis, J. McEwen, A. G. Pile, A. R. Snibbsland
and R. C. Wicheell.

C.S.C.C. "A" TEAM versus POLICE C.C.

The following will represent the "A" team
on the Police ground at 2.15 p.m. to-morrow:
A. E. Davey, captain; A. M. Thornhill, J.
Wackay, F. E. Beach, W. S. Digges, F. Sutton,
W. H. Kelly, F. Bacon, C. P. de Martin, G. C.
McIntosh and A. Gipsos. Reserve—W.
Gast, C. H. Parkinson, G. Bond and L. A.
Wheel.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE

THE KWANGTUNG FLOODS.

INUNDATION SUBSIDING.

DISTRICTS STILL KNEE-DEEP IN WATER.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shameen, 16th October.
1.30 p.m.

From the districts of Cheung-ah, San-cheung and Pik-hoi reports have been received by the Central Relief Committee to the effect that the floods are gradually subsiding.

The water in most places, however, still remains knee-deep.

[Reuter's.]

Parcel Post to Japan.

London, 14th October.

The British Post Office has instituted a parcel post to Japan via Siberia.

The European Crisis.

At a secret sitting of the Montenegrin parliament, all the military supplies demanded by the Government were voted.

Dr. Sven Hedin.

Dr. Sven Hedin, the celebrated explorer, has sailed from Bombay for Hongkong en route to Europe via Japan.

Later.

The European Situation.

Sofia wires that Bulgaria emphatically denies the intention of sending an ultimatum to the Porte.

The Cretan Chamber have appointed an executive committee to govern the island in the name of the King of the Hellenes, until a Greek administration can be established. Montenegro and Serbia have resumed diplomatic relations.

The *Koelnische Zeitung's* Sofia correspondent reports that the German minister has notified Bulgaria that, until she has given up the Oriental railway, or paid the daily indemnity of fifteen thousand francs which is demanded, the question of her independence cannot be discussed.

The Chinese Railway Loan.

The Peking-Hankow railway loan has been largely over-subscribed.

Austrian Steamers Boycotted.

The Austrian Embassy has protested to the Porte against the boycott of the Austrian Lloyd steamers, and also as to the language of a section of the Turkish press hinting that it is unwise to irritate Austria too much.

Later.

An Austrian mail steamer which has arrived at Jaffa has been boycotted.

A mob subsequently attacked the Austrian Post Office and destroyed the mail carts and letter boxes.

JAPAN.

THE PORT ARTHUR-CHEFOO CABLE.

Tokio, October 12.

The China-Japanese Convention with regard to the Port Arthur to Chefoo cable and the South Manchuria overland telegraph line was signed in Tokio to-day.

A CABINET COUNCIL.

An extraordinary Cabinet Council was held this morning. Subsequently to this Marquis Katsura, the Premier, was received in audience by his Majesty, the Emperor.

H. E. TANG SHAO-YI.

Count Komura, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Baron Gotō, President of the South Manchuria Railway, Governor-General Oshima and the Chinese Special Commissioner to study constitutional questions, Li Chia-chu, will entertain H. E. Tang Shao-yi to dinner on the 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th inst., respectively.

AMERICAN VISITORS.

Thirty-eight representatives from the American Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Coast, nineteen of whom are accompanied by their wives, arrived at Yokohama this morning on board the T. K. K. S. *Tenyo Maru*. The five principal Japanese Chambers of Commerce presented an address of welcome at the pier.

The arrival of these commercial visitors and of the American Exhibition Commissioner, thus preceding the arrival of the American battleship fleet, is regarded as typifying an advance messenger of peace.—N. G. D. News.

The announcement comes from Washington that the American edition of the official life of Li Hong-chang has been published in Chinese at San Francisco in two volumes. It is possible for Chinamen to secure it on monthly payments, extending over a hundred years. It is bound in beautiful half rubber binding, and according to the publishers' notice, guaranteed to last forty centuries.

DASTARDLY AFFAIR AT CAUSEWAY BAY.

SHOPKEEPER AND DISTRICT WATCHMAN ATTACKED BY HIGHWAYMEN.

Causeway Bay was the scene of a most audacious highway robbery last night. A shopkeeper named Chan Kai, carrying on business at 51, Jardine's Bazaar, was "held up," beaten and robbed of his money, whilst a district watchman, who went to his assistance, was also roughly handled by the thugs, who managed to effect an escape. One of the highwaymen can be recognised, and it is to be hoped that by his arrest the remainder will be brought to justice.

The robbery was a very cleverly planned affair. The robbers took the advantage afforded them by the darkness of the road, due to the absence of any street lamps, to carry out their project. They secreted themselves outside Kennedy Stables to waylay their victim.

At about eight o'clock last night, Chan Kai left his shop to visit friends residing on Shau-ki-wan Road. As he was passing Kennedy Stables he noticed five men, who had probably been hiding behind the large rock near the sea-wall, appear on the road and started out in the direction of the polo ground. The shopkeeper was not aware that he was being followed.

When he reached the Tin Hau Temple he was suddenly seized by the queue and thrown violently to the ground. The man struggled fiercely with his assailants, but he was soon overpowered. In a few seconds he was relieved of \$1.60—all the money he had in his pocket.

The highwaymen were then proceeding to divest him of his clothing when District Watchman 32, hearing the shopkeeper's cries, rushed to the scene, and taking the situation in a glance, proceeded to the assistance of the shopkeeper, who was being held down on the street. Before he could do anything, however, he was seized by the throat by one man, grabbed round the waist by another, and in the struggle that came about, the trio rolled to the ground. The D.W. got to his feet first, and drew his truncheon, which he was not quick enough to put to any use, for by the time he got up he was jumped upon again and pushed down. When he regained his footing this time the scoundrels had disappeared.

In company with the shopkeeper he returned to No. 2 Police Station and reported the matter, giving a description of the one man they recognised among the lot. It is believed that the robbers were boatmen, whose boats were moored in the refuge.

U. S. TRANSPORT "SEWARD"

MORE REPAIRS REQUIRED IN SHANGHAI.

The repairs to the transport *Seward* are to be much more extensive than at first contemplated. In going over the ship in dry dock in Shanghai, the engineers have found that her cold storage department needs complete renovation. Much of the wood work, etc. was found to have been rotted and it will be necessary to completely remount it. Orders have been issued that the work be done as thoroughly and in the most expeditious manner possible. The *Seward* will not be able to leave Shanghai until about December 1, it is stated.

THE AMERICAN FLEET.

DEPARTURE FROM MANILA.

The Battleship Fleet left Manila bay yesterday morning before most of the good people of the city were up and about, reports the *Cable News-American* of 12th inst. At least most of the Americans. The big fleet pulled up its divers anchors and departed at the witching hour of six o'clock and by nine o'clock was well out in the China Sea steering north toward the coast of Formosa. The *Panther*, *Culgoa*, *Relief* and *Glacier* have been left behind, the *Yankee* being the only vessel of the fleet auxiliaries that accompanied the big ships to Japan. The *Panther* will leave here in a day or two for Hongkong and will be away for a short time. The *Glacier* will be sent to Olongapo to dock and will then be sent to San Francisco. The *Culgoa* is engaged in taking stores from the *Glacier* and when the complete cargo is received the *Culgoa* will leave for Amoy. The date of departure is variously set at some time between the 23rd and 26th.

There were no sad farewells, no parting words. The fleet simply pulled up anchor and departed. Admiral Sperry addressed a request to Governor-General Smith to have all vessel notified of the time of the return of the fleet, November 1, so that the Bataan range could be cleared and target practice could begin at once. The Governor-General will take the necessary steps. Despite the fact that the hour of departure was two hours earlier than that announced Friday evening, there were no stragglers. Every member of the crews was aboard Friday night.

SERVICES OF GEISHA AS WAITRESSES TO BE DISPENS'D WITH.

Christian Japanese in Tokyo and Yokohama have been endeavouring to persuade the Tokyo municipal authorities and business associations to dispense with geisha and waitresses at the receptions to be given to the U.S. Pacific Squadron. A memorial has been addressed to the Government on the same question signed by Mr. Ebata, Chairman of the Tokyo Young Men's Christian Association; Mr. Hachido, Chairman of the Corresponding Association at Yokohama; Mr. Oaki, Chairman of the Japan Christian Gospel Association; Mr. Ando, Chairman of the Japan Temperance Society; Mrs. Yajima, Chairman of the Christian Ladies' Social Reform Society; and Mr. Ikuoka, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association's Union, of Japan.

A Tokyo dispatch states that in compliance with the suggestion of Japanese residents in America, the Tokyo municipal authorities have decided not to employ the services of geisha as waitresses at the reception of the U.S. Squadron. Geisha dances will, however, be given.

—Japan Chronicle.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

THE CHAOTIC CURRENCY.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 15th October.

The notes issued for circulation by the Canton Kwan Yin Chin Chu of the following denominations, viz., \$1, \$5, and \$10, redeemable according to the standard of 20-cent pieces, have now amounted to over two million dollars. The Canton authorities propose to call in all these notes from circulation as a new series of notes of the values of \$1, \$5, and \$10, respectively, based on the standard of the Mexican dollar, has lately been put into circulation by the Canton Government Bank. The Shan Hou "bu" was instructed to investigate the possibility of carrying out the proposal. The Chu has now submitted a report that, under present circumstances, the calling in of the notes of the Kwan Yin Chin Chu will seriously affect the Canton money market, as these notes have been very favourably accepted by the people.

THE CANTON VICEROY is reported to have received instructions from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to establish a separate court with power to conduct affairs having connection with foreign missionaries and Chinese converts.

EARTHQUAKE IN HUNGSHAN.

On the 11th instant, after heavy rain a violent earthquake was felt in the Hungshan district within the city at 6 p.m. The city wall was damaged to the extent of several changes, and a large number of houses suffered more or less damage. It is reported that several persons were killed.

WINTER UNIFORM.

The Viceroy has issued a notification that winter hats are to be worn from the 24th day of this month, the 18th instant.

ROBBER CHIEF.

The robber chief, Luk Lau Ching, has long been wanted by the authorities, but none of their efforts have proved successful in capturing him. Day before yesterday Admiral Li Chun accompanied by a number of selected "braves" left for the West River. Admiral Li, as it is reported, was ostensibly going to make a tour of inspection of the guard boats stationed in the waterways, but in reality it is learnt Admiral Li's expedition to the West River was for the purpose of trying to personally effect the capture of the robber chief Luk.

MILITARY MANOEUVRES.

Taotai Ng Chung, director of the newly-organised Army Training Department, left here yesterday for Hupoh province accompanied by a number of officers, to attend the manoeuvres there to be held in the coming winter by the troops of Kiangsu and Hupoh.

MARINE COURT.

BOARDING A STEAMER WITHOUT PERMISSION.

In the Marine Court, this morning, before the Hon. Commander Basil R. H. Taylor, R.N., Harbour-Master, Cheong Ki Chun, accountant of the steam launch *Kam Po*, charged Lai Kai, a Chinaman with no occupation or fixed abode, with unlawfully boarding his vessel without the permission of the master or other officer in charge this morning.

From the evidence of the complainant, it appears that at 4 a.m. to-day he was on board his launch, which was alongside a bamboo wharf off Yau-ma-tei Police Station. He observed the defendant come on board and proceed to the engine room. The launch had been laid up for the night, with no steam up. He followed the defendant, and demanded to know why he was there. The answer was that he wanted to see a man who he declared was a friend of his. There was nobody on board, answering to the name (Yeung Yo Tai) that defendant alleged belonged to his imaginary friend.

Before the Marine Magistrate, this morning, Lau pleaded that he went on board in order to find Yeung Yo Tai, a fireman on board the launch. He admitted not obtaining permission. A fine of \$5 was imposed, in default of payment, 14 days' hard labour.

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd., announces that the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending October 3, 1908, amounted to 21,707.44 tons and the sales for the same period to 25,079.90.

DR. SVEN HEDIN has telegraphed a cordial acceptance of an invitation to Simla by German friends requesting him to visit Berlin and deliver a lecture before the German Geographical Society on the results of his recent explorations.

A MARRIAGE has been arranged and will shortly take place between Arthur Edward Kennedy, eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kennedy, and grandson of the late Sir Arthur Kennedy, G.C.M.G., C.B., at one time Governor of Queensland and Hongkong, and Marie, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. O'Connor, of Pretoria, South Africa.

FOR a generation past the Zoo has been without a Sumatran tiger, but the omission has just been remedied by the arrival of one of these animals. The Sumatran tiger is the smallest in the world, but it is a very handsome beast, with a very rich golden coat, and with twice as many stripes as other tigers. He has extraordinarily big whiskers.

Two unemployed—coolie and a hawker—were the defendants in a case in the Police Court, to-day. Leung Chan, another hawker, 50, Wan-chai Road, was the complainant, and he accused them both of having stolen from him, yesterday, at 13, Cross Street, the sum of sixty-five cents. It was related that the defendants met the complainant in the house and during his absence took the money from his coat which was hanging on a peg in the wall. This they denied, and the case was adjourned.

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write this afternoon—

During the week under review, there has been no material change in our market, and rates for most stocks remain more or less unchanged.

Banks.—A slight improvement in Hongkong and Shanghai Banks has taken place, and there are buyers at \$795. The London quotation is unchanged.

Marine Insurances.—Cantons are quiet and without business to report at \$200. North China has further buyers at \$185. Unions are in demand at \$785. There are buyers of Yangtze at \$167.

Fire Insurances.—China Fire can be obtained at \$96, and Hongkong Fire at \$335.

Shipping.—Douglases and China and Manilas are unchanged and without business to report. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats are still in favour at \$28.

Refineries.—China Sugars are somewhat neglected at \$110 and Luxons at \$22. In the North, Perak Sugars are in demand at the slightly improved rate of \$15.90.

Mining.—Raubas are weaker and obtainable at \$7.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Whampoa Docks have been dealt in at \$93, closing with further buyers at the rate. Shanghai Docks have declined to \$182, after sales at the rate. Hongkong Wharves are a shade firmer and buyers rule the Northern market at \$152.

Land, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Hotels are in request at \$77. Hongkong Land continues quiet at \$94, while Humphreys Estates have buyers at \$9. Shanghai Lands can be sold at \$115.

Cotton Mills.—Ewos have risen to \$11. 65 with buyers at the rate. Hongkong Cottons are obtainable at \$1.05. In other stocks under this heading, we have no business to report.

Miscellaneous.—China Providents have buyers at \$94. Green Island Cement has been booked at \$10. Steam Laundries are quiet at \$6. The report of the directors of this company for the year ending 31st May, 1908, just issued to shareholders, shows a credit balance at credit of profit and loss account of \$16,593.84, which the directors recommended should be apportioned as follows:—To pay a dividend of 8%—40 cents per share, absorbing \$8,000. To write off machinery and plant \$5,573.16. To write off buildings \$1,784.19 and to carry forward to new account the balance of \$23,646. Laogkai has experienced a slight decline, with sales at \$15. Sumatras have likewise weakened to \$15, but buyers prevail at the rate.

Exchange.—The Banks selling rate on London is 1/91 on demand. The T/T rate on Shanghai is 75 1/2.

Dividends Payable.—Cantons. Dividend of \$14 for the year 1907, payable on the 23rd inst. Steam Laundries. Dividend of 40 cents—8 per cent, for year ending 31st May, 1908, payable to-morrow.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T. 1/9 3/16
Do. demand 1/9 1/2
Do. 4 months' sight 1/9 1/2
France—Bank T.T. 2.21 1/2
America—Bank T.T. 42 1/2
Germany—Bank T.T. 1.80
India T.T. 1.33
Do. demand 1.33 1/2
Shanghai—Bank T.T. 75 1/2
Singapore—Bank T.T. per H.K. \$100 76
Japan—Bank T.T. 86 1/2
Yokohama—Bank T.T. 86 1/2

Buying.

months' sight L/O 1/9 9/16
months' sight L/O 1/9 11/16
10 days' sight San Francisco & New York 43 1/2
1 months' sight do. 44 1/2
30 days' sight Sydney & Melbourne 1.9 11/16
1 months' sight France 2.26 1/2
1 months' sight 2.28 1/2
1 months' sight Germany 1.84 1/2
Bar Silver 23 13/16
Bank of England rate 24 1/2
Sovereign 57 1/2

OPIUM QUOTATIONS.

To-day's quotations are as follows:—

Per picul
Malwa New 1,200/1,250
" Old 1,280/1,310
" Older 1,320/1,350
" Oldest 1,320/1,350
Per chest
Patna New 1,215
" Old 1,240
" Enares New 1,190
" Old 1,190
Persian (Paper) 900/950

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.

Indian (*Gracy Apar*) 10th inst., daylight.
Indian (*Aravalli Apar*) 20th inst., morning.
German (*Kleist*) 22nd inst.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Lennox* arrived at Vancouver at 11.30 p.m., on 10th inst.
The E. & A. Co.'s s.s. *Eastern*, from Sydney, &c., left Manila yesterday at 2 p.m., for this port.
The N. Y. K. s.s. *Tango Maru*, American Line, left Shanghai for this port on 15th inst., and is expected here on 18th inst.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Glenfair* arrived at Kobe at 6.30 a.m. on 14th inst., and left again at 4 p.m., same day, via Nagasaki for Shanghai, where she is due to arrive at noon on 18th inst.

To-day's Advertisements.

THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE, 1898.

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF TRADE MARK.

NOTICE is hereby given that CHAN SUI CHI, of Nos. 63 and 65 Queen's Road East, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, carrying on business of Aerated Water Manufacturers, in co-partnership with CHAN KAM YU and CHU SHUN CHO, at Victoria aforesaid, under the style of THE CONNORHT Aerated Water Factory (in Chinese styled "The On Lok Aerated Water Factory") 安樂汽水房 have, on the 11th day of January, 1908, applied for the Registration in Hongkong, in the Register of Trade Marks, of the following Trade Mark:—

The Representation within a circle of a lion standing on a globe, in the back ground on the left of the figure the sun rising from the sea and on the right three ships and the Chinese words 醒獅商標 meaning "Awakening Lion Trade Mark".

In the names of CHAN SUI CHI, CHAN KAM YU and CHU SHUN CHO, who claim to be the proprietors thereof.

The Trade Mark has been used by the Applicants in respect of AERATED WATERS in Class 44 since the year 1900.

A Facsimile of the Trade Mark can be seen at the Office of the Colonial Secretary of Hongkong.

Dated the 16th day of October, 1908.

WILKINSON & GRIST,
Solicitors for the Applicants.

ALTERATION.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAIMUN."

Captain Evans will be despatched for the above Ports, TO-MORROW, the 17th inst., at 12 o'clock Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS & L'PRAIK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 16th October, 1908.

FROM EUROPE.

THE H. A. L. Steamship.

"SENEGAMBIA,"
Captain Eckhorn, having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for counter signature by the Undersigned and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before TO-DAY.

Any Cargo impeding her discharge will be landed at consignees' risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 23rd inst., will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 22nd inst., at 3 p.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,
Hongkong Office.

Hongkong, 16th October, 1908.

THE IMPERIAL COLONIAL CLUB.

THE above Club is formed chiefly for COLONIAL and OVER-SEAS MEMBERS; it is situated at No. 81, Piccadilly (the centre of Clubland), opposite the Green Park.

The Club has a Bridge Section, Reception, Dining, Billiard Room, Smoking Lounge, Reading Room and Library.

Ladies are eligible as Members.

Entrance Fee, Five Guineas, Annual Subscription, Five Guineas.

Further particulars from THE ORGANISING SECRETARY

84, Piccadilly, W.

London, 19th August, 1908.

THE PACIFIC FRIGHT QUESTION.

The *Osaka Mainichi* reports that a conference of agents of steamship companies engaged in the Pacific trade held on the 6th inst. at Yokohama failed to come to any agreement. It was eventually decided that each company should act on its own discretion, and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has arranged to make its own independent tariff. Its intention is to issue through bills of lading at the present rates on certain goods, including steam and rail transit, and to take upon its own shoulders the increase in the American rail rate. This applies to raw silk, silk and other valuable goods, the steamer rate on which will be reduced by about 25 gold cents per 100 lbs. On other goods the increased rail rate will be partly counter-balanced by reductions in the steamer transport. For example, the rate on tea is to be reduced by about 16 gold cents, on mating by 15 cents, on straw braid by 30 cents. The rate on porcelain exported from Nagoya will be reduced to 60 cents, a reduction being also made in the freight on most of the other cargo. The average rate charged by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, says a Tokyo dispatch to the *Mainichi*, is about 64 cents per 100 lbs. against the average rate of 73 cents recently published by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company. The new average rate of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is a reduction of about 17 per cent. from the present tariff. This, coupled with the increased railway tariff, will bring the average total increase on the through rates to no higher than 16 per cent. The report that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha had adopted a conference rate with the American steamship companies in the North is incorrect. From the first the Nippon Yusen Kaisha had decided to fix the rate in Japan.—Japan Chronicle.

To Let.

TO LET.

FIRST FLOOR of No. 6, QUEEN'S ROAD, Central, containing 6 Rooms and Servants' Quarters.

Apply to—
DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1908. [57]

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 5A, DUNDRELL STREET.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st October, 1908. [490]

TO LET.

OFFICES and ROOMS on the 1st and 2nd Floors of No. 14, Des Voeux Road Central (formerly occupied by Messrs. Shawar, Toomes & Co.).

Apply to—
THE COMPTON DEPARTMENT,
E. D. Sassoon & Co.,
Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 9th June, 1908. [188]

TO LET.

A HOUSE in KNOTSFORD TERRACE, Kowloon.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st October, 1908. [391]

TO LET.

"HATHERLEIGH," CONDUIT ROAD.

A HOUSE in WONG-MEI-CHONG ROAD.
A HOUSE in RIFON TERRACE.
OFFICES in YORK BUILDING.
GODOWNS in PRAVA EAST, BLUE BUILDINGS, and No. 108, DES VOUEX ROAD next to the Hongkong Hotel.
FLATS in MORETON TERRACE.
No. 10, DES VOUEX ROAD CENTRAL, 1st Floor.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st October, 1908. [166]

Intimation.

KOWLOON HOTEL.

THE TOPIC OF THE TOWN.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

(ESTABLISHED 1861.)

NEW SERIES No. 5901

二廿月九年四十三緒光

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1908.

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515 PER ANNUM
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NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in "The HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Ice House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not be responsible for any returned MSS., nor to return any Contribution.

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CONTENTS.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Leading Articles:—

New Chinese Loan.

Relief for Flood Victims.

Hongkong "Stage-plays."

Plague Prevention in Hongkong.

Telegrams:—

A Foreign Loan.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

The Opium Trade.

Mr. Taft on China.

A New Loan.

China's Currency.

Interport Shoot.

The Japanese Boycott.

Naval Reorganisation.

Floods in Kwangtung.

Anti-opium Campaign.

Railway Concession.

Ex-Viceroy Shum.

Canton-Hankow Railway.

The American Fleet.

The Dalai Lama.

Meetings:—

Legislative Council.

Opening of Shanghai.

Kulangu (Amoy) Municipal Council.

Legal Intelligence:—

New Solicitor Enrolled.

An Indisposed Defendant.

"Ignorant Man's" Lost Passage.

Money Loan Association Again.

Politics:—

The Yau-ma-tei Collapse.

Selling a Wife.

A Daring Burglar.

A Thief's Downfall.

A Desperate Robber.

An Exciting Chase.

Indian Thief Convicted.

Another "Runaway" Case.

Golden Robbery.

Correspondence:—

The Blindhome.

Miscellaneous Articles and Reports:—

Another Kowloon Lunch.

Floods in Kwangtung.

S.S. *Singon* is a Typhoon.

The Interport Shoot.

Italian Convict.

Rail Destruction.

Trial Trip.

Disturbed Affair—Causeway Bay.

Plague Procedure.

Piracy near Hongkong.

S.S. *Filipin*.

The Anti-malarial Campaign.

Sale of Work.

Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cattle Disease.

Hongkong Gymkhana Club.

A Generous Gift.

Tiger at Large.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

New Line between Borneo and Philippines.

Leave of Absence.

Marine Court.

Typhoon Warnings.

Water Return.

Golf.

Canton Day by Day.

Interport Cricket.

Opium in Shanghai.

Death of Mr. J. A. Ross.

The Anti-opium Campaign.

American-Japanese Relations.

The United States.

U. S. Transport *Seward*.

China and Tibet.

Opium Prohibition.

The Dalai Lama.

Trade Marks.

Foreigners in the Interior.

Shanghai's First Airship.

North China Insurance Co., Ltd.

Sun Yat-sen.

Japanese Line to Trieste.

The Yangtze Steamship Services.

Sino-Japanese Relations.

Japan and China.

The Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

The Trade Delegation, its Causes and Cure.

Methods of the Japanese Kippoket.

Manchuria.

The Pacific Freight Question.

Japan.

The American Fleet.

Opium in Hongkong.

The Opium Trade.

Japan's Foreign Trade.

Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.

Saved by Wind.

International Opium Conference.

Crown Agents.

Penang Hills Railway.

A Visit to a Pasture Institute.

Commercial:—

Yam Market.

Weekly Share Report.

Exchange.

Local and General.

BIRTHS.

On September 27, 1908, at Hankow, the wife of O. M. BENZMAN, of a son.

On October 4, 1908, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. H. RUMCKER, a daughter.

On October 5, 1908, at Shanghai, the wife of LEONARD EVERETT, of a son.

On October 6, 1908, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. S. SYMONS, a daughter.

On October 7, 1908, at Shanghai, the wife of D. W. CHAWWORTH, of a son.

On October 8, 1908, at Shanghai, the wife of R. L. GARDNER, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On August 15, 1908, at St. Michael's Church, Aberystwyth, PETER THOMAS, second son of the late Peter Thomas of Liverpool and Manchester, to BESSIE MAY, a cond daughter of Mrs. W. R. Wild, York Pl. ce, Whitworth Park, Manchester.

On October 1, 1908, at Shanghai, JOSEPH THOMAS, youngest son of Richard Smith, Valmar, Avy, Scotland, to AGNES, youngest daughter of Thomas McLennan, Nelson Street, Avy, Scotland.

On October 3, 1908, at Shanghai, JENNIE CATHRINE, only daughter of Captain and Mrs. S. D. Park, to HEINRICH E. W. BIERWIRTH, of Essen, Germany.

On October 3, 1908, at Shanghai, THOMAS EDWIN, youngest son of the late Captain James Watts of Tientsin, to NORA, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Osborne Middleton.

On Saturday, October 3, 1908, at Shanghai, HUGH FORD COCHRAN, lower Yangtze Pilot, to MARY widow of the late Capt. David Martin, s.s. *Taiwan*, China Navigation Co.

On October 3, at Shanghai, LAWRENCE, son of Thos. Tweedie Stewart, Penzance, Scotland, to ELLA RAMSAY HANNA, daughter of the late Rev. J. C. Dick, Eskdalemuir, Dumfriesshire.

On Thursday October 6, 1908, at Shanghai, CHARLES NOBLE, eldest son of the Rev. Charles Davies of Amherst, Gloucestershire, to AILEEN, eldest daughter of Alfred Wallington, of London.

On October 6, 1908, at Shanghai, ARTHUR HERBERT, only son of the late Rev. Richard Thomas Blagden of Broadwood, Linton, Devon, to ANNIE, daughter of Richard James Arthur of Castel, Co. Tipperary.

DEATHS.

On September 4, 1908, at Sheriff Park, Aberdeen, GILGOW, ELIZABETH HENDERSON, beloved mother of Campbell Henderson, Shanghai, and Russell Henderson, Paoliangfu.

On October 4, at Shanghai, JOHN ALEXANDER POSS, Accountant of the Chartered Bank, aged 34 years.

On October 6, 1908, at Shanghai, JEAN CHARLES ALBERT PUTHOD, aged 24 years.

On October 11, 1908, at Shanghai, GEORGINA MARY TIPP, beloved wife of Jas. A. Tipp, I. M. Customs, Hankow, aged 32 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1908.

NEW CHINESE LOAN.

(13th October.)

The steady rise in the price of shares of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in the local stock exchange gave an inkling to those whose interest and business it is to watch the movement and progress of the leading financial institution in the Far East that something in the nature of a successful coup was soon to be brought about in connection with the local Bank. Our telegram column to-day contains the eminently satisfactory announcement that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank with one other foreign Bank has successfully concluded negotiations for a loan to the Ministry of Posts and Communications for five million sterling bearing interest at five per cent per annum. An earlier telegram from Peking, for which we are indebted to our well-informed Chinese contemporary—the *Shung Po*—stated that the loan was redeemable in thirty years. For the past week repeated references had been made to the negotiations in progress. The North China service of telegrams of *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd* supplied a message to Shanghai papers on the 7th inst., from Peking, which anticipated with slight variations the definite announcement made to-day. The German telegram stated:—"The Chinese Government has concluded an agreement with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Banque de l'Indo-Chine, according to which the latter put at China's disposal the means to buy back the five per cent loan, amounting to 112,500,000 frs. which was negotiated in 1898 for the construction of the Peking-Hankow Railway and was to be redeemed within twenty years. It is reported that the amount of the new loan is £8,000,000 which was taken by the Banks at 94. The new loan runs for thirty years and bears five per cent interest. It has, however, been found to be impossible to place the loan in Europe, as the London market is most unfavourable and the security is apparently considered in London not to be quite satisfactory. The fact, that the agreement has been signed, is, therefore, kept secret here." The *N. C. Z. News*, which printed the despatch, was somewhat sceptical of its accuracy. An editorial note explained that "the above report should, perhaps, be taken with some reserve. Negotiations are known to be in progress and are said to have reached a delicate point; but from other sources than the above no information of any definite conclusion is yet obtainable. In one particular the writer of the above telegram certainly appears to have gone astray, in saying that 'the London market is most unfavourable.' With the Bank of England rate at 2½ per cent and call money about 2½, the moment would seem on the contrary to be particularly favourable. The definite report, which reaches Hongkong to-day, and which remains to be officially confirmed, should leave little doubt in the public mind that the loan is practically concluded. While congratulating the shareholders of the Hongkong Bank for the Corporation's success in negotiating this new loan we cannot refrain from the expression of a word of praise to the officers responsible for the successful negotiations and for keeping the Corporation well to the front before the Chinese Government as the favoured intermediary on behalf of that Government in obtaining financial facilities for the development of the enormous latent resources of this great Empire."

RELIEF FOR FLOOD VICTIMS.

(15th October.)

Prompt action has been taken by the Tung Wa Committee to afford relief to the sufferers by the floods in Kwangtung Province. Yesterday two telegrams were received by the Committee, one from Canton and another from Kongmoon, representing the distress of the people in the afflicted districts and asking that help might be given to them during the preliminary stages following the inundations. Accordingly, a meeting of the Tung Wa Committee was held this afternoon at which these messages were discussed, and the members were unanimous that there should be no delay in the matter. It was decided to reply to Canton stating that a sum of no less than \$50,000 had been set apart for the relief of the unfortunate people who have been rendered homeless and led to the point of starvation, and that money would be despatched to the Central Relief Committee immediately. The funds will be unreservedly placed in the hands of the Relief Committee to be doled out in the most judicious manner, while at the same time the Committee will distribute food in the shape of rice and biscuits, etc., in order to tide the peasantry over their temporary disabilities. With regard to the question whether any of the members of the Tung Wa Committee could undertake the proposition of looking after the disposal of the \$50,000 in order to ensure that it should be utilised to the best advantage it seems that none is prepared at the present time to absent himself from Hongkong, so that the work of charity will be left to the discretion of the relief body in Canton. Considering the experience the Committee has had of dealing with cases of distress and indigence as the result of nature's visitations it may well be assumed that they will discharge their trust with wisdom and to the best advantage. As regards Kongmoon, a telegram was sent off to-day informing the claimants for assistance at that port what had been done in the case of Canton, and reporting that the Relief Committee there had been requested to take whatever steps might be considered necessary and essential towards ameliorating the condition of the people affected by the floods. It may be stated that the total amount of the relief funds in Hongkong, exclusive of the reserve funds, reaches the large sum of \$405,000. It is satisfactory to know that the Tung Wa Committee have, as usual, realised the gravity of the situation in the neighbouring province with such commendable promptitude and have made provision for the wants of the people.

HONGKONG "STAGE-PLAYS."

Owing mainly to the interest aroused in the Estimates, the Bill entitled "An Ordinance for regulating theatres and other places of public resort," which was read a third time at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council and comes into operation on the 15th of December next, has passed practically unnoticed. There can be no doubt, however, regarding the importance and necessity of this fresh addition to the statute book and the only wonder is that its utility was not previously recognised. For months past the people of Hongkong have been supporting at least three cinematograph entertainments which are nightly patronised by large audiences, composed of all sections of the community. These shows are held in buildings which, subject to correction, are scarcely suited for this class of entertainment and it has frequently occurred to us that in the event of a sudden stampede for any reason there would be serious danger to a large proportion of the audience. No doubt most of those who have visited and enjoyed the display of films—and that, we should fancy, includes the majority of the younger generation—were under the impression that the buildings came within the special jurisdiction of one or other of the Government departments and had been duly licensed in accordance with the practice followed in other countries. For that reason, the fact that the exits, and the general configuration of the halls, together with the seating arrangements, were not exactly suited to permit of easy egress in case of alarm was overlooked, in the belief that everything had been done to meet the approval of the authorities. It must therefore have come as a surprise to most people to learn from the Attorney-General that the Government had no power whatever of supervision over these entertainments and that, indeed, the promoters had an entirely free hand in making what arrangements they considered desirable. When one remembers the dangers which attach to the use of the cinematograph even under the best conditions it is appalling to think of what might have happened had anything untoward occurred during one of the performances. We may be wrong, of course, and we make no claim to omniscience, but it has seemed to us that the wooden structures which are situated on Des Vaux Road are but ill adapted for the seating of large audiences. The exits are narrow and inconvenient and the seating conditions of so complicated a nature that in the event of a rush for the doors the weak would have but a poor chance of reaching the street. That is not saying anything against the character of the performances; for there are far too few places of amusement in Hongkong as it is, and that these cinematograph exhibitions are an attraction is amply proved by the large numbers who seek relaxation and pleasure in holding them. But the fact remains that the safety of the public is a prime consideration and one which it is the duty of the Govern-

ment to regard and preserve. Under the new Ordinance, it is laid down that from and after the 15th of December "it shall not be lawful for any person, to have or keep any building, matched or other place of public resort for the public performance of stage plays without a licence granted as hereafter provided under a penalty not exceeding two hundred dollars for every day on which such building or place shall have been so kept open for the purpose aforesaid." The term "stage-play" is wide enough to cover "every tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burlesque, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, cinematograph display, exhibition of dancing, conjuring, juggling, acrobatic performance, boxing contest, circus, concert or other entertainment of the stage or any part thereof." In moving the second reading of the Bill, the Attorney-General concisely explained how the licences necessary would be issued by the police or other authority and that the time during which these licences would be operative would appear on them. This was necessary, he explained, having regard to the different forms of public performances which in some cases may last a week or one night. The licence will be subject to certain safeguards which are enumerated in the Bill, such as the materials of the building, the seating accommodation, exits, overcrowding, provisions against fire, and inspection by the police. Clause 3 of the Ordinance vests power in the Governor-in-Council to make regulations to meet all the necessary conditions which will be precedent to the granting of a licence. Fees will be prescribed in respect to each licence, and will have regard to the length of time for which the licence is obtained. There is no idea of imposing restrictive conditions on the promoters of these entertainments, all that is required being that the safety of the public shall be ensured. The measure will, we feel certain, commend itself to everybody, even to those specially affected, because it will to a large extent relieve them from responsibility in the matter of exits and provision against fire or other contingents.

PLAGUE PREVENTION IN HONGKONG.

To judge from the proceedings at the last meeting of the Sanitary Board it would seem that the Government is not yet entirely convinced that the eradication of plague through the destruction of infected rats by means of specially imported cats is an absolute panacea. Indeed, the theory that if a number of cats of guaranteed ferocity and an assured penchant for rats were introduced into the Gobyay plague would disappear is rather less than no time almost seems to be on the point of being discarded. That would be a pity after all we have been told about what cats can do when they are of the hunting variety. Nobody who has followed the discussions on this subject at the Sanitary Board, can have failed to mark the enthusiasm with which the higher officials regarded the employment of the semi-domestic feline as plague-preventers, and even His Excellency the Governor in his minute to the Board waxed eloquent in favour of the idea. It is true that sceptics who do not belong to the official world viewed the prospect with some misgivings, but of course their opinion does not count in really important affairs. And now, it may be asked, what reason is there for the belief that the cat proposition has apparently lost its savour? The answer is to be found in the latest minute by the Governor on the plague question. He quotes the Principal Civil Medical Officer as saying that "good ratting cats avoid plague rats"—which seems to touch the kernel of the whole matter. But the argument is submitted that the presence of the cats scares the plague disseminators into the drains and sewers where they promptly give up the ghost apparently in disgust because they are prevented from pursuing their usual avocation. Not being experts in the matter we dare not offer any comment on this aspect of the case, but we certainly have our doubts regarding the ultimate destination of the rodents after they have been scared of domestic premises. It is also stated by the P.C.M.O. that cats are liable to contract plague, but cat fleas do not transmit the disease to human beings "so that it matters little even if a few cats do contract plague." Now, if that is a proved and well-established fact there is nothing to say against the employment of plague-stricken cats to phase away plague-propagating rats; but if it is only a pious opinion based on nothing beyond the wish being father to the thought then a new and serious factor is imported into the consideration of this question. Again, there is a suggestion that Hongkong cats have not the same domestic habits as those in England, but in what respect they differ we are not told. From all this it would appear to be perfectly clear that the introduction of a host of cats which are liable to contract plague, which refuse to catch plague-infected rats and whose habits are problematical is fraught with the utmost danger to the community and the result may once more show the recklessness of those who attempt to overturn the balance of nature without adequate reason. That the Government is somewhat dubious as to the advisability of making Hongkong a sort of general home for stray and parish cats is evident from the Governor's minute to the Sanitary Board in which His Excellency sought to obtain the opinion of that body on the subject of starting a campaign against rats by the use of poison. We are thoroughly convinced that if the Government could secure a poison which would effectually decimate the rat tribe, while, at the same time, it was not deleterious to the human system that would be the real solution

of the difficulty. If we remember rightly it is claimed for a substance known as Ratin that it contains these properties, but unfortunately it is of such a volatile nature that within a few weeks of its manufacture it has lost its active qualities. However, the Governor stated in his minute that the Government has "inquired from India what they considered to be the best poison and what precautions they have found to be useful to adopt to prevent children and domestic animals from being injured by the poison, and when we receive their report the Sanitary Department will have high authority to guide them in their methods of conducting the campaign. It will be for them to decide the class of poison to be used and the method in which it should be used so as to avoid danger. It will also be for them to decide at what time it would be best to issue the poison and begin the campaign." Until that report is published we can only rest in hope that some satisfactory method will be devised whereby the end aimed at will be attained without endangering the lives of the ignorant classes.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

A FOREIGN LOAN.

FOR £5,000,000 STERLING.

[By courtesy of the "Shung Po".]

Peking, 9th October.

The Ministry of Posts and Communications is in treaty for a loan of five million pounds sterling from England and France.

The money is to be repayable in thirty years.

Negotiations for the loan are nearing completion.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

ANOTHER CHINESE LOAN.

[By courtesy of the "Shung Po".]

Peking, 9th October.

The Ministry of Posts and Communications has entered into negotiations with representatives of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and one other foreign Bank for a loan.

An Imperial Decree has been issued authorising the Ministry presided over by H.E. Chan Pik to sign the agreement for the loan as soon as the details of the negotiations are completed.

THE OPIUM TRADE.

NEW REGULATIONS.

[By courtesy of the "Shung Po".]

Peking, 9th October.

Commencing from the first moon of the next China New Year, the Board of Revenue is determined to enforce the regulations for the stamping of every "ball" of raw opium.

By the second moon it proposes to regulate the sale of prepared opium.

Mr. Taft on China.

BELITTLES THE "YELLOW PERIL."

BELIEVES IN FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN CHINA AND AMERICA.

[By courtesy of the "New York Herald".]

New York, October 12.

Mr. Taft, the Republican candidate for the Presidential election, received Li Sum Ling, editor of the *Wah Tat* Po, of Hongkong, on Saturday morning and cordially welcomed him. In the course of a long interview Mr. Taft emphatically expressed himself in favour of closer relations between China and the United States. He said: "If I should ever be in a position where my influence in the affairs of the United States will be felt I would use every effort to help China's progress."

"China is making distinct progress, which will be still greater if American ideas and influence are mingled with the work. I am looking forward to the time when China will be able to take care of herself independently of outside influence, because it will be for the good of all nations."

"I am opposed to the tactics of those who seem to be working to keep China half developed, and in a position where she will be imposed upon, and where she can be forced to sell for half price and pay double for all she buys. These tactics not only injure China, but in the end those nations who are imposing upon her will also be injured."

"I am glad to state that the United States has not been a leader in this game. The Chinese have confidence in Americans because we do not say one thing and do another. What adds to this confidence is that China knows American intentions are honest and that we do not want her territory."

"China's progress is our progress, and therefore I am in favour of close friendship between China and the United States."

"I never had thought of retracting one word from my Shanghai speech and believe I never will. I do not fear the development of the Chinese, nor do I take any stock in the reports of a possible Yellow Peril."

"Li Sum Ling asked Mr. Taft, what, in his opinion, would hasten China's prosperity and bring about a development to the advantage of China and America?"

Mr. Taft replied, that frankness compelled him to say that China should send more young men to the United States to study the conditions and to work for the improvement of their country."

"I have often

Gusty wind prevailed during the firing. A telegram was received too late [The day's issue.—Ed., H.K.T.] for the

GOOD SCORE MADE BY SINGAPORE.
The Singapore team fired in the interport match (against Shanghai, Hongkong and Penang yesterday (Oct. 15). Firing took place at 10.30 a.m. The morning and the light was good. The Singapore team was in a possible 100 yards range. He was shooting excellently, and headed the team with the excellent score of 100 out of a possible 100. Unfortunally, Captain Colbeck broke down and only added 73 to the total. Still Singapore's score of 173 is respectable. It works out at 937 per man. The other scores have not yet come to hand. The other scores have not yet come to hand.

The full results of the Singapore shooting are as follows—

	200	300	400	Total
M. A. Watt	33	35	34	102
E. A. Brown	33	34	34	101
Tan Chow Kim	32	33	32	97
J. Long	33	33	31	97
V. A. Flower	32	32	33	97
W. L. Kemp	32	32	33	97
R. E. de Silva	30	32	34	96
Tan Soo Bin	27	34	35	96
B. M. Elliot	30	31	35	96
F. B. Colbeck	28	23	22	73
Total	311	318	308	937

The previous results are as follows:—
1899: Shanghai, 819; Singapore, 777;
1900: No match.

1891: Hongkong, 867; Shanghai, 830;
Singapore, 741.
1892: Hongkong, 835; Shanghai, 810;
Singapore, 752.
1893: Hongkong, 822; Shanghai, 802;
Singapore, 768.
1894: Hongkong, 823; Singapore, 817;
Shanghai, 760.
1895: Singapore, 934; Shanghai, 903;
Hongkong, 829.
1896: Hongkong, 916; Shanghai, 900;
Singapore, 870.
1897: Singapore, 934; Hongkong, 916;
Shanghai, 866.
1898: Hongkong, 934; Singapore, 923;
Shanghai, 893.
1899: Hongkong, 952; Singapore, 926;
Shanghai, 887.
1900: Hongkong, 930; Singapore, 909;
Shanghai, 900.
1901: Hongkong, 901; Singapore, 884;
Shanghai, 871.
1902: Hongkong, 926; Singapore, 893;
Shanghai, 871.
1903: Singapore, 927; Shanghai, 915;
Hongkong, 891.
1904: Singapore, 919; Hongkong, 910;
Shanghai, 908.
1905: Hongkong, 923; Shanghai, 870;
Singapore, 850.
1906: Shanghai, 936; Hongkong, 909;
Singapore, 891.
1907: Shanghai, 943; Hongkong, 938;
Singapore, 925—Singapore Free Press.

THE JAPANESE BOYCOTT. THE MOVEMENT IN SINGAPORE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Singapore, 18th October.
The Chinese firms of Kwong Tak Loong and Hung Kee, having made a mistake the other day in importing goods from a certain country, have expressed their willingness to make a contribution of \$500 each to the funds [of the Canton Self-Government Society] for the promotion of native industries [in Canton].

Later.
Hung Fat and Tung Lee have made admissions of similar mistakes [to those committed by the above mentioned firms].

Hung Fat is willing to pay \$800 and Tung Lee a sum of \$500 towards the same object.

NAVAL REORGANIZATION.

SELECTION OF CADETS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 18th October.
The Ministry of War, having decided to proceed with the reorganization of the Navy as soon as possible, has telegraphed to the Viceroy and Governors of all Provinces to send four students from each Province to the Capital.

These students will first undergo a test examination by the Ministry, and when they have satisfied the Ministry of their fitness will be sent to Japan for their naval training.

FLOODS IN KWANGTUNG.

EXTENSIVE DAMAGE.

RELIEF REQUIRED FROM HONGKONG.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shameen, 15th October, 12.50 p.m.

The Hoiping and Sunning districts have been inundated by the floods. A large number of houses collapsed and many lives were lost.

The Central Relief Committee despatched three parties to-day with gunny bags containing biscuits and other necessary food stuffs for the sufferers on the spot of the disaster. The Committee also telegraphed to the Tung Wa Hospital recording the circumstances of the afflicted peninsula and asking for assistance and co-operation in the work of relieving the distressed.

SUNNING AND HOIPING AFFECTED.

SEVERAL TOWNS SUBMERGED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Canton, 14th October.
On the 10th and 11th inst., rain came down in torrents in the Sunning and Hoiping districts.

The river has risen considerably. San-cheung, Pik-hoi, Cheung Sha, Chik-ham, Hok-sam and Sa-ping are flooded.

In these market towns the water rose as high as the top of house-doors.

Many houses have been washed away and a great many people are rendered homeless.

The committee of the Tung Wa Hospital in Hongkong received two urgent telegrams yesterday: one from the Central Flood Relief Committee and the other from Kowloon. Both these telegrams ask for urgent relief to be despatched to the affected districts. A meeting of the general committee of the Tung Wa was held at the hospital this afternoon to consider the despatches.

ASSISTANCE FROM CANTON.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 14th October.
Owing to incessant rains the embankments along the West River are now in a dangerous state and it is feared that they might collapse at any moment. Yesterday a steam-launch was despatched by the Canton Central Flood Relief Committee with ten thousand gunny bags. The launch is to make a tour of inspection along the waterways of the River and render necessary assistance to the villagers in need. Late in the afternoon yesterday urgent telegrams were received here from the districts of Sunning and Hoiping stating that the market-places of Chik-ham, Cheung-sha, San-cheung, and Pik-hoi and the neighbourhood have been flooded, the heavy rain had fallen during the last three days and the river rose rapidly to a considerable extent. In the message the Central Relief Committee was asked for immediate assistance. In answer to these urgent calls, this morning, another steam launch was despatched to the afflicted districts with a number of gunny bags and necessary food stuffs to help the unfortunate victims of the latest visitation.

ANTI-OPIMUM CAMPAIGN.

STAMPING OF RAW OPIMUM.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 14th October.
It is proposed by the Imperial Government to engage foreign employees in the control of the opium trade with special reference to the stamping of raw opium "balls."

RAILWAY CONCESSION.

FRENCH APPLICATION REFUSED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 14th October.
The French Minister in Peking has applied for a concession to build a railway from the city of Chingting in Chihli Province, to Taiyuan, the capital of Shansi.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has determinedly opposed the application.

ANTI-OPIMUM CAMPAIGN.

SUPPRESSION OF THE TRADE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 15th October.
The Board of Civil Affairs has fixed the period for the suppression of the opium trade at seven years.
[Presumably from the date of the issue of the famous edict in 1905.—Ed., H.K.T.]

The Ministry of Finance has recommended to the Throne and obtained the Imperial sanction for a proposal to prohibit the cultivation of the poppy in the following six provinces beginning with the latter portion of this year:—Kiangsu, Anhui, Honan, Yunnan, Fukien and Heilungkiang. The memorial further states that as foreign opium is almost entirely consumed by the population of the South-eastern provinces of the Empire, the excision of native opium, the question of prohibiting the smoking of the drug is even more important than the prohibition of poppy cultivation in those provinces. The cultivation of the plants in other provinces of the Empire will be considered in due course, after the carrying out of the Imperial commands with regard to the six provinces named above.—N.C.D. News.

EX-VICEEROY SHUM.

PROBABLE RETURN TO OFFICE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 15th October.
It is rumoured that Shum Ohn-hen, Ex-Viceroy of Canton, has every chance of being recalled to the sphere of official activity again.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

INVESTIGATION ORDERED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 15th October.
The Ministry of Posts and Communications has telegraphed to Canton to cause an investigation to be made into and a report to be submitted

ted on, the alleged corruption said to exist among the officers controlling the administration of the Canton-Hankow Railway.

THE AMERICAN FLEET.

ARRIVAL OF CHINESE COMMISSIONERS AT SHANGHAI.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Shanghai, 16th October.
Yuk Long and Leung Tun In, the two Imperial Commissioners deputed to welcome the American Fleet at Amoy, have arrived at Shanghai.

THE DALAI LAMA.

FUTURE STATUS IN TIBET.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 15th October.
It is proposed by the Imperial Government to appoint the Dalai Lama as the Buddhist Pope in Tibet. He shall not, however, exercise any power over the civil administration of the Government.

THE KWANGTUNG FLOODS.

INUNDATION SUBSIDING.

DISTRICTS STILL KNEE-DEEP IN WATER.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shameen, 16th October, 1.30 p.m.

From the districts of Cheung-sha, San-cheung and Pik-hoi reports have been received by the Central Relief Committee to the effect that the floods are gradually subsiding. The water in most places, however, still remains knee-deep.

TYPHOON WARNINGS.

The American Consulate-General received the following telegrams from the Manila Observatory—

October 12th, 10 a.m.

Cyclone or typhoon E. of southern Luzon, moving W. or W.N.W.

October 13th, 9 a.m.

Cyclone or typhoon, North-East of Manila, moving W. or W.N.W.

2 p.m.

Cyclone or typhoon crossing Northern Luzon, moving W.N.W.

3.30 p.m.

Cyclone or typhoon crossing northern Luzon, moving N.W.

October 14th, 12.30 p.m.

Cyclone or typhoon, West of Balintag Channel, moving W.N.W.

U. S. TRANSPORT "SEWARD."

MORE REPAIRS REQUIRED IN SHANGHAI.

The repairs to the transport Seward are to be much more extensive than at first contemplated. In going over the ship in dry dock in Shanghai, the engineers have found that the cargo storage compartments need complete renovation. Much of the wood work, etc. was found to have been rotted and it will be necessary to completely remodel it. Orders have been issued that the work be done as thoroughly and in the most expeditious manner possible. The Seward will not be able to leave Shanghai until about December 1, it is feared.

WATER RETURN.

Level and storage of water in reservoirs on the 1st October.

CITY AND HILL DISTRICT WATER WORKS.

LEVEL.

1907. 1908.

Tytam... 2' 6" above 2' 1" above

Tytam By... 2' 6" above 2' 1" above

Tytam Wash... 2' 6" above 2' 1" above

Tytam Intermediate... 2' 6" above 2' 1" above

Pokfulum... 2' 6" above 2' 1" above

Wong-nai-chung... 2' 6" above 2' 1" above

STORAGE GALLONS.

1907. 1908.

Tytam... 407,000,000 407,000,000

Tytam By... 25,000,000 25,000,000

Tytam Intermediate... 195,350,000 195,350,000

Pokfulum... 70,400,000 70,400,000

Wong-nai-chung... 33,200,000 33,200,000

Total... 732,410,000 732,410,000

Consumption of water in the City and Hill District during the month of September.

1907. 1908.

Consumption... 1,457,720,000 1,457,720,000 gallons

E. 1st to 2nd... 205,550 207,550

Consumption per head per day... 23.6 23.1 gallons

Constant supply during September in both years.

The return of consumption is subject to error owing to the difficulty of accurate measurement while the operations at Albany Filter are in progress.

KOWLOON WATER WORKS.

LEVEL.

1907. 1908.

Kowloon... 2' 6" below 2' 1" below

Gravitation... 2' 6" below 2' 1" below

STORAGE GALLONS.

1907. 1908.

Kowloon... 112,000,000 112,000,000 gallons

Gravitation... 25,000,000 25,000,000

Consumption of water in Kowloon during the month of September.

1907. 1908.

Consumption... 750,000 750,000 gallons

E. 1st to 2nd... 75,000 75,000

Consumption per head per day... 9.0 11.3 gallons

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

W. CHATMAN, Water Authority, Kowloon.

Floods in Kwangtung.

THE SUNNING AND HOIPING DISASTER.

CANTON RELIEF MEASURES.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 15th October.

When I wrote yesterday about the abnormal rise of the river in the Sunning and Hoiping districts, I did not think of the gravity of the disaster which had overtaken those districts of the Kwangtung Province. The concise telegrams, which reached the committee of the Central Flood Relief Society could not, of necessity, contain all the details of the calamitous floods. The messages stated the bare fact of the unfortunate occurrence and pleaded urgently for aid which was required by the homeless thousands whose homes had been swept away by the relentless force of the sweeping current. Although the present visitation is not to be compared with that of April last (at point of superficial area, the districts immediately affected furnish equally harrowing tales in point of the suffering and misery of the peasantry. Whole villages have been swept away, towns after towns on the low-lying land has been submerged, and countless numbers are taking refuge on house-tops awaiting rescue with the desperate hope of safety. This is a brief and incomplete narrative which has been brought to the headquarters of the Canton Relief Society by one of the survivors of Nature's frightful visitation to ward off which physical force stands for the nonce perfectly helpless.

The emissaries of the districts of Hoiping and Sunning personally called on the Central Relief Committee here and recounted their terrible experiences with tearful eyes, giving the Committee a most painful and informative picture of the flood now prevailing in their districts. They stated that the rivers rose some twenty feet high and the water overflowed the embankments inundating the whole country around. As advised in my telegram yesterday, the market-places of San-cheung, Cheung-sha and Pik-hoi have been flooded. The houses are almost all submerged, and the people had to climb up the roof for their safety. The harrowing scenes of hundreds crowding on house-tops clamouring piteously for help is distressing in the extreme, and no help could be forthcoming. The inhabitants of Sunning are a well-to-do lot of people, comprised mostly of returned emigrants from California. Dead bodies have been seen floating on the rivers; at present the number of lives lost and that of houses which have collapsed cannot be estimated with any degree of accuracy, but it is safe to reckon them at a high figure. One village alone with some two hundred houses is it has been partially swept away. By comparison the first named district suffered more than the second.

HELP FROM CANTON.

Three relief parties have been organized by the Flood Relief Committee whose commendable efforts in despatching assistance to the sufferers is deserving of all praise. Three steam launches have been chartered in pursuance of the relief measures. The first to proceed to the scene of disaster is the Kwong Hung carrying 5,000 gunny bags, 20,000 cattles of rice and other articles of diet. This expedition is under the charge of Mr. Lau Kan Tieg and some other members of the committee. The second launch to proceed is the Lum Wah; she carries 40 baskets of biscuits, 1,500 gunny bags, and other provisions, under the direction of Mr. Tang Yu Sang and others. The third expedition is the best equipped of the lot. The party proceed by the steam-launch Po On laden with 50,000 cattles of rice, 4 baskets of biscuits, 8 baskets of preserved vegetables, 8 baskets of cakes and salt, etc. Mr. Li Yat Chu, assisted by a number of volunteer rescuers, commands this expedition. Others are surely to follow as soon as further assistance arrives from Hongkong.

THE WEST RIVER.

The embankments in the Shiu Hing prefecture are reported to have been broken in four places, and all the rice fields are said to be under water.

The river banks are now drifting on the West River being carried down stream by the strong currents. These derelict rafts are a source of danger to vessels navigating the river.

THE RED CROSS SOCIETY.

The Chinese Red Cross Society has also despatched some of its members to proceed to the Sunning and Hoiping districts to render medical assistance to the sufferers, and to distribute medical comforts to those in need.

APPEAL TO HONGKONG.

The Shan Hoo Chu has been approached for a grant to conduct a relieving expedition to the flooded districts.

A telegram was despatched to the Tung Wa Hospital at Hongkong requesting joint assistance with the Central Relief Committee in the organization of the relief measures which it had already hurriedly devised. In order to render aid to the sufferers in the British Colony will maintain their best traditions and show themselves in thorough sympathy with their compatriots in distress.

MARINE COURT.

BOARDING A STEAMER WITHOUT PERMISSION.

In the Marine Court, this morning, before the Hon. Commander Basil R. H. Taylor, R.N., Harbour Master, Cheong Ki Chun, accountant of the steam launch Kan Po, charged Lau Kai, a Chinaman, with no occupation or fixed abode, with unlawfully boarding his vessel without the permission of the master or other officer in charge this morning.

From the evidence of the complainant, it appears that at 8 a.m. to-day he was on board his launch, which was alongside a bamboo pier off Yau-mai Police Station. He observed the defendant come on board and proceed to the engine room. The launch had been laid up for the night, with no steam up. He followed the defendant and demanded to know why he was there. The answer was that he wanted to see a man who he declared was a friend of his. Then he saw nobody on board and, supposing the man (Yung Yu Tai) that defendant alleged belonged to his imaginary friend, he followed him to the engine room.

Before the Marine Magistrate, this morning, Lau pleaded that he went on board in order to see Yung Yu Tai, a friend of his, on board the launch. He admitted not obtaining permission, but said it was impossible for him to do so. A fine of \$5 was imposed, the default of payment to be made by instalments.

The Interport Shoot.

WEATHER MILITATES AGAINST GOOD SHOOTING.

HONGKONG'S TOTAL 902.

The above shoot, which had unavoidably to be postponed from Wednesday owing to unfavourable weather, took place this afternoon at King's Park Range, Kowloon. The light was very unfavourable to good shooting and when the Hongkong team would have given a far better account of themselves. But as it may, notwithstanding their great handicap, those chosen to represent Hongkong for interport honours did full justice to themselves. Lapsley and Gow shot excellently, both heading the list with a total of 97 to their credit. Jenkins Hall, Munro and Paddon were also in good form, their scores being 93, while Pidgeon and McGilvray came in for third place with 89 points each to their credit. The outstanding feature of the meeting was steady shooting. Pidgeon, Gow and Hall started their score with a bull's eye. The wind slightly altered its course at the 500 yards range, but this was compensated for by the clouds clearing somewhat. The result of the meeting thus places Hongkong 35 points below Singapore's score and 21 points below that of Shanghai.

The results of the afternoon's shooting are as follows:—

200 300 400 Total

J. C. Gow 33 31 33 97

R. Lapsley 33 33 32 97

Chief Petty Officer

Paddon (Tamar) 31 30 29 90

Lauca-Sergt. Munro 30 30 30 90

A. Jenkins 29 33 28 90

Sergt. Hall 31 33 26 90

P. Pidgeon 32 28 29 89

Capt. P. Lammer 29 29 26 84

Col. Sergt. Wright 30 24 29 83

Total 309 305 288 902

The officials for the afternoon were Lieut. Col. Chapman, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, and Mr. G. H. Wakeman.

SHANGHAI'S SCORE.

The Shanghai team shot for the interport Challenge Shield yesterday (Oct. 12) afternoon but failed badly. After the dull light and steady wind the past few weeks, yesterday's conditions called for material alteration in elevation and windage. The light was bright but there was a most gusty wind from the northeast. Nearly all the members of the team were considered good for 95 or 96 in ordinary circumstances, but there was a general break-down, and particularly at the 600 yards range. Linde, who had scored 100 the previous day in the practice match, fell back to 86, and Lynch, who can usually be relied upon for a score of at least 31 per range, could only aggregate 80. Brand had luck, his score of 30 at 500 yards included one miss.

The scores were:—

200 300 400 Total

Another Kowloon Launch.

PORTUGUESE GUARD SHIP CHRISTENED.

THE "DILLY" THE SECOND.

Three launches within one month is a feat which any shipbuilding yard may be proud of. The last has been accomplished by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., when the new *Dilly*, built to the order of the Portuguese Government, as represented by Hongkong by Mr. J. J. Leiria, Consul for Portugal, took the water in Hungshing Bay on the other side of the harbour. The *Kiang Tai* and the *Kiang Chi* were successively launched in September and the *Dilly* today, making three vessels in all to be built for the Chinese and Portuguese Governments, respectively, in one month.

The subject of our notice to-day having been constructed to the order of the Portuguese Government it followed that Madame Leiria, wife of Consul Leiria, should have been the central figure in the pretty ceremony at Kowloon today. When the party of guests gathered from Hongkong; at the farthest western end of the shipyard, the *Dilly* was conspicuous by the quantity of bunting which she displayed. The platform for the accommodation of visitors was laid out on the grass for the occasion. Among the guests present were—Rear Admiral R. H. S. Stokes and Mrs. Stokes, Mr. Blackflower, secretary to the Rear-Admiral; Capt. Germaino Dias, A.D.C. to the Governor of Macao, representing His Excellency's honor Alvaro Rodrigues; Lieut. Ventura, of the Portuguese Navy; Mr. Miranda, Guedes, Director of Public Works, Macao; Consul and Madame J. J. Leiria; Mr. von Wieser, Consul for Austria, and Mme. von Wieser; Mr. Robert Mitchell, chief manager, Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.; Mr. W. Wilson, manager at Kowloon; Mr. J. L. de S. Alves, and Miss Alves; Dr. and Mrs. Forsyth, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. de Souza, Miss E. Carvalho, Mr. and Mrs. Leiria, Miss M. Rozario, the Misses Loureiro, Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. L. Soares, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Alves, and Messrs. F. J. V. Jorge, J. Martin (drafterman, Kowloon Dock) and P. N. de Silva.

Capt. Germaino Dias wore his full military uniform with his numerous decorations including the insignia of the Torre de Spada for signalvalour in the Cuamato campaign at which the present Governor of Macao was so much distinguished.

The most prominent feature of the *Dilly's* decoration was undoubtedly the large Portuguese flag which fluttered in the steady breeze from the fore of the new guard ship.

Slight drizzle fell as the party of visitors landed at Kowloon and for a little time after they had taken up their positions on the platform. It is singular that no sooner did the *Dilly* slide down the ways, the sun pierced through the dark, lowering clouds lending brightness and colour to the scene around.

When all was ready Mr. Mitchell handed Mrs. Leiria the bottle of champagne which was fastened to the bow of the *Dilly* by silken cords with the national colours of Portugal entwined. It was a singularly appropriate compliment which was greatly appreciated by the Portuguese assembly and particularly grateful to Señora Leiria and the representatives of the Macao Government.

With the removal of the last block the *Dilly* began to move and as she glided faultlessly down the ways Mrs. Leiria, in capital style, dashed the bottle of champagne across her bow, naming her the *Dilly* as the vessel took her element. Then the spluttering noise of crackers on deck and the yells of delight of the hundreds of native labourers and mechanics, who were interested spectators, announced the complete success of the pretty ceremony prettily performed.

The tug *David Gillen* at once took the *Dilly* in tow to a buoy allotted to her in the bay. It may be mentioned that the *Dilly* was launched with her own steam up. Because, however, of the abnormal high water, owing to the recent typhoon, which raised the stern of the *Dilly* to the level of the blocks, it was found necessary by Manager Wilson to have the rudder securely fastened to a timber placed cross-wise to enable the successful launching of this vessel. But for this circumstance, the visitors would have been given an exhibition of the *Dilly's* steaming capabilities which will now be reserved when the official trial takes place later.

When three lusty cheers had been given to the *Dilly* on the call of Mr. Mitchell, that gentleman presented Mrs. Leiria with a gold watch bracelet as a souvenir of the occasion which she asked Mrs. Leiria to accept from his Company. The bracelet was suitably inscribed.

"Thank you so much, Mr. Mitchell," was the curt and expressive acknowledgment gracefully made by the lady.

At Chief Manager Mitchell's invitation the party adjourned to the drawing office.

After the assembly had been served with wine,

Mr. Mitchell, in proposing success to the *Dilly*, said they were met that morning to witness the launching of the vessel which had been so gracefully performed by Mrs. Leiria. That lady was careful that the *Dilly* did not get to the water before she had broken the bottle of champagne across her bow, and when she did so, the *Dilly* sped away to the good wishes of all. She was a sister ship of the vessel of the same name built by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. for the Portuguese Government some twenty years ago. That the work had proved satisfactory was shown by the fact that the engines of the first *Dilly* had been put back into her success; they were found to be in such perfect order and sound condition. That fact bespoke also the efficiency and skill of the Portuguese Naval Officers, and also proved what excellent mechanics the Portuguese were to preserve the engines as they had done. He hoped that the new *Dilly* will prove as great a success as the first one was and would have a useful career before her for many years to come. He thanked Mrs. Leiria for her kind services in christening the *Dilly* in so graceful a manner, and in proposing success to the vessel he would couple with it the name of Consul Leiria. (Applause.)

In thanking Mr. Mitchell on behalf of his wife, Mrs. Leiria said—Rear-Admiral Stokes, Captain Germaino Dias, Lieut. Ventura, Mr. Robert Mitchell, ladies and gentlemen,—in the name of the Portuguese Government I thank you all for your kind presence here this morning, and also for the way you drank to the prosperity and God Speed to the *Dilly*. I do not know whether you are aware that this is the second *Dilly* built by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, for the Portuguese Government. Her namesake fulfilled admirably the functions of coast guard ship. The *Dilly* the Second, when completed, will fulfill all the requirements of such a vessel, and these requirements, ladies and gentlemen, are the work of the builders; and who are the builders but Mr. Robert Mitchell and his staff. To these gentlemen credit is due for the creation of the pretty model of a cruiser

which we have just seen launched to-day. On behalf of Mrs. Leiria I beg to tender her thanks for the pretty souvenir she has just received of this interesting ceremony, and for the Dock Company's courtesy in inviting her to have her name associated with this interesting ceremony. Ladies and gentlemen, I have to ask you to kindly join me in drinking to the prosperity of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, and also give three cheers and a "tiger" to Mr. Mitchell and his capable staff of designers, constructors and shipbuilders. (Applause.)

There was an enthusiastic response. Mr. W. Wilson thanked Mr. Leiria, on behalf of the Dock Co.'s staff, for the complimentary remarks and hoped that the Portuguese Government would favour his Company with some more of their orders. (Applause.)

This concluded the ceremony and the visitors re-embarked on board the Dock Co.'s launch for Hongkong, arriving shortly before 11 a.m. The *Dilly* is built entirely of wood. Her length between perpendiculars is 112 ft., extreme length 118 ft. 6 in., and depth of hold 9 ft. The boiler is a new one, but the engines belong to the old *Dilly*. She has one funnel and carries two masts.

AMERICAN-JAPANESE RELATIONS.

WASHINGTON DENIES TOKYO REPORTS.

New York, October 15th. The Washington Government has issued a statement denying the report from Tokyo that a new and favourable understanding has been reached between the Governments of the United States and Japan regarding the emigration situation. The statement declares that the situation is unchanged.—*Shanghai Times*.

A VISIT TO A PASTEUR INSTITUTE.

PLANTER'S EXPERIENCES AT SAIGON.

Mr. C. F. Lushington, of Senawang Estate, Sungei Gadut, who recently went to Saigon to undergo treatment at the Pasteur Institute, has given the *Malay Mail* the following account of his experiences:—

I do not remember how long it took from Singapore, but I think something under a week including a stoppage at the French penal settlement (Puloh Condor Islands). On my arrival I made a beeline for the Pasteur Institute and, having undergone a somewhat stiff examination as to my name, father's name and sex, whether I had been in the course of any aquatic activity, and if not why not, I at last made arrangements with the doctor to be present next morning punctually at 8 a.m. to receive my first injections. I was surprised at

THE MOTLEY CROWD of all nationalities which turned up next morning as my fellow-patients—men, women and even babies in arms were there. As for the doctor, he was busy at his daily occupation of carving up a rat or some other unfortunate victim on which he was testing the strength of his serums, while from the back of the buildings there issued many weird noises, which upon investigation proved to be made by other victims kept in separate cages—monkeys, dogs, rabbits and even fowls, all looking unconsciously tired of life, and some of them in a state of semi-coma.

At last, at last, I must say one had to sum up quite a lot of courage, the first day on receiving the first two "dips" with the hypodermic syringe in "Little Mary." The syringe contained a serum, which, I believe, was procured daily from a young buffalo, another unfortunate victim who was kept most carefully in a mosquito-proof house, and evidently acted as a sort of medium for keeping the serum in an effective condition. After the third day, when I had had six of these injections, the effect was evident. Each puncture had raised a swelling and brought out a local rash, together with a fairly high temperature. I had very little inclination to move, or even smile, as the contraction of a muscle anywhere made the treatment as very painful after the first week when the system was growing accustomed to the daily introduction of "Young Buffalo." Horrible thoughts occur to me of things that might happen as a result, but I am still doing very well, thank you!

SAIGON ANINITIES.

The whole treatment lasted twenty-one days, during which I lived at the Continental—quite a comfortable hotel, at one of the chief resorts of the small French community at mid-day, where they meet for a cocktail or rather the equivalent in French which they call *casseroles*—are deserted and Saigon slumbers, for do they not turn night into day? The streets are crowded and cafés chantant are all going strong at midnight. The French people are seen at their best, and if I had been feeling better, I have no doubt I could have had quite a gay time, but as it was, I was quite ready to leave by the first boat after my treatment was over. During the winter months, I understand, it is much pleasanter, when the opera season is on, the Government paying large sums annually to get out really good companies to act as to the theatre of the city on which they lavished something like \$1,000,000. It is noticeable too how well the town has been laid out, with good broad streets and fine avenues of tamarind trees, but it strikes one as quaint to meet an old-fashioned-looking train with clanging bells travelling slowly on the same roads with nothing separating it from other traffic. A very noticeable feature besides the buildings is the fine bridges which span the numerous broad rivers in the country surrounding Saigon. The scenery for miles round is very flat and uninteresting, with rice and sugar-cane grown on an extensive scale.

RUBBER IN THE DISTRICT.

Rubber, however, was very much in its infancy, there being only one attempt at opening up a large estate near Saigon, namely the Suranah Estate, a limited company with a big concession of about 10,000 acres on which had the extremely difficult task of trying to write a favourable report without speaking in pretty strong language about the management and method of cultivation. There certainly was a laudable attempt at being up to date with modern labour-saving machinery, such as steam ploughs, motor pumps and other mechanical toys, but, as a somewhat conservative planter, I can not help thinking a good Straits or Ceylon planter would have had a far better show for the money with a good Tamil or Javanese labour force on the estate. On another small rubber estate near Saigon, which had reached the tapping stage, it was enough to give one hysterics to see them use their little tapping knife, like a young spade with edges turned up, with which instrument of torture they were gaily digging out chunks of bark in the hope of making the dripping-looking little trees give out their last drop of the much sought after latex. After leaving Saigon I went north to Hongkong, Shanghai and Wei-hai-wei, which trip was found necessary for my health after my somewhat trying experience at Saigon.

S.S. "Singan" in a Typhoon.

THE SKIPPER'S SMART MANOEUVRE.

S.S. "MATHILDE" ASHORE.

A valued correspondent favours us with the following particulars relating to the recent experiences of the China Navigation Co.'s s.s. *Singin* in the last typhoon. He writes:—The *Singin*, Messrs. Butterfield & Swire's steamer, from Haiphong via Hoihow, met with or nearly ran into the last typhoon. Finding the weather suspicious after coming out of Hainan Straits on Saturday morning, the popular old skipper, Cap. Trimson, instinctively sensed something in the wind and promptly took steps to keep clear of the centre of the typhoon. In spite of all precautions, he could not possibly avoid even by running away to the southward, a violent shaking, and by all accounts Cap. Trimson manoeuvred his ship to the best of his seamanship abilities and so worked round to the southward of the storm.

But for a few deck fittings the *Singin* is little the worse for the struggle, she had with the mountainous waves that often towered so high as to cause those on board to think they were close to high land covered with mist. While running southward she passed the *Michael* *John* *hove to*, and the *Singin* also reports the *Mathilde* ashore or on the mud in Hoihow Bay.

We learn that the *Mathilde* ran ashore on Tuesday last and rests on a sandy bottom. Messrs. Jensen & Co., local agents for the United States and Japan regarding the emigration situation. The statement declares that the situation is unchanged.—*Shanghai Times*.

"RUBI'S" STORMY VOYAGE.

The *Manila Times* of 7th inst. says:—The Hongkong-Macau liner, *Rubi*, Captain R. W. Almond, arrived in the bay this morning, one day later than the schedule. The *Rubi* left Hongkong as usual at one o'clock Saturday afternoon and experienced fresh east and north winds up until midnight on Sunday, with falling glass. From that time the wind increased to hurricane force, with terrific squalls, heavy rain, and a tremendous sea.

At 4 o'clock Monday morning the ship was "hove to" and remained so until 8 o'clock that evening. The weather improving, the *Rubi* was put on her course for Macau and had fine weather to port. Captain Almond describes the sea as the heaviest he has experienced in fourteen years, but the ship rode the waves well and no damage resulted. During the height of the storm, thousands of birds were blown over the ship. The centre of the storm passed six miles southwest of the *Rubi's* position, travelling north-west, and being in latitude 18° N, longitude 118° E. The lowest reading of the barometer was at 8.30 a.m. on Monday, being at that time 28.92.

INTERPORT CRICKET.

SHANGHAI PROGRAMME.

Seven members of the team that will represent Shanghai against Hongkong have already been chosen, says the *N. C. D. News*. They are:—

Mr. L. Walker.
Capt. E. I. M. Barrett.
Mr. W. H. Moulle.
Mr. H. B. Ollerdesen.
Mr. V. H. Lanning.
Mr. O. D. Rasmussen.
Mr. N. Anderson.

The programme for the Cricket Week has now been arranged. The Hongkong Team arrives in Shanghai on Sunday, October 18, per P. & O. S. *Assaye*. Monday will be devoted to the two teams by the Shanghai Cricket Club. The match will be played on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 20th and 21st and, if necessary, on Thursday. On Wednesday evening there will be a Smoking Concert and Entertainment at the Country Club. Thursday evening the teams will be present at the A. D. C. performance at the Lyceum Theatre, and on Saturday a public dinner will be given in honour of the visitors.

On Friday and Saturday, the 23rd and 24th, the regatta at Henli takes place, but there will also be Interport Tennis matches on these days at the Cricket Club, Singles on Friday, Doubles on Saturday. On Sunday there will be a Sailing Regatta at Henli.

In connection with the Smoking Concert at the Country Club lists of the subscriptions (\$5 each) have been posted at the Cricket Club, but those who are unable to sign one of the lists can become subscribers by sending \$5 to the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. W. L. Gerrard, c/o Messrs. Reiss & Co.

AN EXCITING CHASE.

THIEF RUNS AWAY WITH AN OVERCOAT.

A very interesting account of a theft which took place on board the s.s. *Hoi Nam* in the early hours of this morning was given before Mr. J. H. Kemp at the Police Court, this morning. Shortly after midnight last night (15 a.m.) a Chinese unemployed Chinaman, suddenly awoke to the fact that he needed an overcoat to protect his tender skin from the biting wind, and the lawful means for procuring one not particularly appealing to his advanced views, he decided on obtaining one by very doubtful methods at all hazards. So he repaired in all haste to the s.s. *Hoi Nam*, and on seeing an article which suited his fancy, he grabbed it and hurried off to his lodgings. But those on board were not to be hoodwinked so very easily. Kwok Yuen, the chief engineer of the *Hoi Nam*, was not a sound sleeper and did not take him long to open his slumbering optics on hearing the thief clump footsteps. He at once surmised that something curious was happening on board his ship. His action was not far wrong when, on making investigations, he observed Mr. Cheong beating a hasty retreat with the overcoat under his arm. He quickly woke up the other *Hoi*, and forthwith an exciting chase followed. It did not wait for developments, but dropping his ill-gotten gain on the wharf, he bolted sooner than he came. Up the streets pursued and pursued, and was not till the market was reached that the thief gave up the chase and also himself to a European constable. This morning, at the Police Court, the defendant declared in a crestfallen way that he had been to the theatre last night and yodelously done stealing the overcoat. The complainant had a grudge against him and was trying to get him into trouble by bringing this action against him. However, his statement did not produce the desired effect on the magisterial mind, and consequently, he will have to face one month's suspended sentence at the Victoria Gaol.

HONGKONG GYMKHANA CLUB.

THE FIFTH MEETING.

The last meeting of the season of the Hongkong Gymkhana Club was held at the Race Course, Happy Valley, last Saturday. Intermittent rain and the threatened typhoon accounted for the paucity of spectators which did not, however, militate against the keenness of the competition in the various events. His Excellency the Governor was among those present. The Band of the 3rd Middlesex Regiment contributed, as usual, an excellent programme of music, which did much to enliven the afternoon's proceedings.

Results of the events are appended:—

1. 4.45 p.m.—FIVE FURLONGS FLAT RACE.—HANDICAP. For all China ponies, jockeys who have not won more than two official races in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lbs. Entrance fee \$5. 1st prize: A cup presented by Rear-Admiral R. H. S. Stokes, R.N. and prize. (Entrance fees to go to winner.)
Mr. F. T. Hough's Sidier Dhu, 138lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Mackie) 1
Mr. Reinbeck's Maryland, 151lbs..... (Mr. Hickman) 2
Mr. Dryadus's Earthquake, 160lbs..... (Mr. Dupree) 3
Mr. R. F. C. Master's Blue Nile, 152lbs..... (Mr. Vids) 4
Dr. J. W. Noble's Baluchi Chief, 150lbs..... (Mr. Gresson) 5
Dr. J. W. Noble's Kirkpatrick, 133lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Deacon) 6
Mr. G. E. Morrell's Mainstay, 137lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Balderston) 7
Time: 1:18 4/5.
Winner: \$24.
Cash Sweep: 1st \$103.95; 2nd \$39.70; 3rd \$14.85.

2. 4.05 p.m.—GYMKHANA STAKES.—Value \$100. Distance one mile. For all China ponies. Catch weights at 10 to 12.6 lbs. Winners of an open race or open steeplechase allowed 5 lbs. Non-winning subscription griffins allowed 5 lbs. Jockeys who have not won more than two official races in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lbs. A cup called the Gymkhana Cup will be presented at the end of the season to be won by the pony scoring most marks in the races for the Gymkhana stakes at the Gymkhana meetings during the season, counting 4 points for a 1st; 3 for a second; and 1 for a third. The benefit of marks already scored to pass with the pony on a sale. Any winner of the race to carry 5 lbs. extra for each win in subsequent starts for the race, but in the event of a pony carrying the penalty not winning 2 lbs. to be deducted next time he starts. Such 2 lbs. to remain deducted until he wins again when he will carry the full penalties without deduction. Penalties accumulative up to 15 lbs. Entrance fee \$5, and prize: \$25. (Half entrance fees to go to winner.)
Mr. F. H. May's Astral, 146lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Owner) 1
Mr. Dryadus's Cockcomb, 146lbs 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Mackie) 2
Mr. W. J. Gresson's Quorn, 151lbs, (Owner) 3
Mr. F. B. Deacon's Plym, 141lbs 5lbs allowance..... (Owner) 4
Time: 2:14 1/5.
Winner: \$17.95.
Cash Sweep: 1st \$161.45; 2nd \$74.95; 3rd \$37.35.

3. 4.25 p.m.—LADIES' NOMINATION.—AUNT SALLY RACE.—Gentlemen competitors to start dismounted at a given point which will be indicated by a flag. On the word go mount and ride to where a number of heaps of sticks will be placed on the ground—disassemble—pick up sticks or as many as possible (it is not necessary to pick up the whole of a heap) mount and ride with sticks to starting flag, there dismount and hand pony to man who will be waiting. (Manos not to come on to course until competitors have started.) Run with sticks to lady competitors. Lady competitors will then throw sticks at Aunt Sally to win prize. Each heap of sticks will be numbered. Competitors must take heap of sticks bearing corresponding number to their own programme. Sticks dropped while in transit from heaps to ladies and sticks left in heaps may not be fetched. A separate Aunt Sally will be provided for each lady. If no lady competitor succeeds in knocking down Aunt Sally with supply of sticks first brought to her, ladies may fetch back themselves, sticks already thrown. No lady competitor may fetch back sticks until all lady competitors have exhausted their supply. Entrance fee \$3. First and second prizes presented by the Club. No post entries.

This race was declared off.
Mr. L. K. Leeson's Soudan, 145lbs..... (Mr. Dupree) 1
Mr. W. J. Gresson's Red Patrick, 155lbs..... (Owner) 2
Mr. L. K. Leeson's Panjab, 137lbs..... (Mr. Deacon) 3
Mr. Medico's Sohrano Rose, 138lbs, 4lbs allowance..... (Mr. May) 4
Dr. J. W. Noble's Strathairn, 137lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Mackie) 5
Mr. G. E. Morrell's Kirkpatrick, 153lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Balderston) 6
Mr. Manning's Eglington, 150lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Hocking) 7
Time: 1:52 1/5.
Winner: \$8.
Cash Sweep: 1st \$31.8; 2nd \$8.10; 3rd \$4.45.

4. 4.55 p.m.—THREE-QUARTERS OF A MILE FLAT RACE.—For China ponies which have run and not won at Gymkhana meetings this season. Winners of the better race not barred. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription griffins of any season and all ponies entered in the Hongkong Griffins Stakes and/or the Tientsin Stakes at the Hongkong Jockey Club Meeting 1908 allowed 10 lbs. Jockeys who have not won more than two official races in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lbs. Entrance fee \$5. 1st prize: a cup presented by the Hon. Mr. F. H. May, and prize: \$25. (Entrance fees to go to winner.)
Mr. L. K. Leeson's Soudan, 145lbs..... (Mr. Dupree) 1
Mr. W. J. Gresson's Red Patrick, 155lbs..... (Owner) 2
Mr. L. K. Leeson's Panjab, 137lbs..... (Mr. Deacon) 3
Mr. Medico's Sohrano Rose, 138lbs, 4lbs allowance..... (Mr. May) 4
Dr. J. W. Noble's Strathairn, 137lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Mackie) 5
Mr. G. E. Morrell's Kirkpatrick, 153lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Balderston) 6
Mr. Manning's Eglington, 150lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Hocking) 7
Time: 1:52 1/5.
Winner: \$8.
Cash Sweep: 1st \$31.8; 2nd \$8.10; 3rd \$4.45.

5. 5.15 p.m.—TIME RACE.—For all ponies or horses of any description. Competitors to ride once round the course in a given time. Competitor passing the winning post nearest to the time allowed to win. Entrance fee \$5. First and second prizes presented by the Club.
Mr. W. J. Daniel..... 1
Mr. G. E. Morrell..... 2
Mr. F. B. Deacon..... 3
Time: 3:44 1/5.
Winner: \$144.
Cash Sweep: 1st \$399.25; 2nd \$85.50; 3rd \$42.75.

6. 5.35 p.m.—ONE MILE AND A QUARTER FLAT RACE.—HANDICAP.—For all China ponies. Jockeys who have not won more than two official races in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lbs. Entrance fee \$5. 1st prize: A cup presented. 2nd prize: \$25. (Entrance fees to go to winner.)
Hon. Mr. May's Astral, 156lbs..... (Owner) 1
Mr. Reinbeck's Maryland, 150lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Hickman) 2
Mr. Dryadus's Earthquake, 157lbs..... (Mr. Vids) 3
Time: 2:14 1/5.
Winner: \$24.
Cash Sweep: 1st \$103.95; 2nd \$39.70; 3rd \$14.85.

7. 5.55 p.m.—TIME RACE.—For all ponies or horses of any description. Competitors to ride once round the course in a given time. Competitor passing the winning post nearest to the time allowed to win. Entrance fee \$5. First and second prizes presented by the Club.
Mr. W. J. Daniel..... 1
Mr. G. E. Morrell..... 2
Mr. F. B. Deacon..... 3
Time: 3:44 1/5.
Winner: \$144.
Cash Sweep: 1st \$399.25; 2nd \$85.50; 3rd \$42.75.

Mr. H. W. Kenny's Resignation, 137lbs 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Balderston) 1
Mr. F. F. Hough's Sidier Dhu, 143lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Mackie) 2
Mr. F. B. Deacon's Abstar, 138lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Owner) 3
Mr. L. K. Leeson's Panjab, 136lbs 5lbs allowance..... (Mr. Moore) 4
Mr. W. J. Gresson's Quorn, 162lbs (Owner) 5
Mr. R. F. C. Master's Blue Nile, 150lbs, 5lbs allowance..... (Owner) 6
Mr. Dryadus's Cockcomb, 157lbs..... (Mr. Dupree) 7
Time: 2:45.
Winner: \$13.60.
Cash Sweep: 1st \$555.95; 2nd \$101.70; 3rd \$6.85.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

THE WITHDRAWAL OF JAPANESE TROOPS FROM NORTH CHINA.

From an authority who is well-informed regarding diplomatic affairs, the *Yomiuri* learns that the principal subject debated at the joint conference of the Elder Statesmen and Ministers held on the 25th ultimo was the consideration of the policy to be taken in dealing with China. The proposed withdrawal of Japanese troops from North China was a question settled at the moment when Count Komura accepted the portfolio of Minister of Foreign Affairs. All questions in China between Japan and Russia which might have led to conflict between the two countries have been almost entirely settled by the Portsmouth Treaty so far as Russia is concerned. Their final solution now lies between China and Japan. The various questions pending concern railway construction in Manchuria and telegraphs, fishing, salt industry, and mining, and none of them, with the exception of the Yalu timber question, have yet been settled. So long as these questions remain in this undecided state, the result of the Portsmouth Treaty continues uncertain. It is naturally that Count Komura, as the principal negotiator of the Portsmouth Treaty, should be greatly concerned in the settlement of the questions now pending between Japan and China in Manchuria. On the other hand, the cult of patriotism is fast growing among the Chinese, and as diplomatic questions between China and the world generally have almost all been settled, the Chinese Government shows a disposition to concentrate its attention on the questions in Manchuria pending with Japan, and is firm in the attitude of making no concessions. For this reason it is expected that the negotiations for the settlement of these questions will increase in difficulty as they proceed. This state of things could not be foreseen by the Japanese Government when that Portsmouth Treaty was negotiated. As a consequence of the Boxer disturbance in 1900, all the foreign Powers concerned have stationed their troops in Peking and in effect they are menacing the Chinese Government. The question whether it is necessary for Japan, as a friendly neighbour of China, to follow in the wake of other countries, and maintain troops in North China, has been occupying the attention of all Japanese who find an interest in foreign policy. Finding that the presence in Peking of foreign troops is offensive to the feelings of the Chinese Government and people, it appears that Count Komura has decided to withdraw the Japanese troops as a first step toward the amicable solution of the questions pending between Japan and China, and thus enable the fruit of the Portsmouth Treaty to be secured.—*Japan Chronicle*.

OPIUM IN HONGKONG.

A special wire to our contemporary, the *Straits Times*, contains the gratifying announcement that the Colony of Hongkong has so far escaped the financial spoliation of which it would have become the victim, had the enforcement of the preliminary mandate of the Secretary of the opium monopoly, for the closing of the opium shops been insisted upon. Sir Frederick Lugard, the Governor, introducing the Budget of the Colony, into the Legislative Council, said that no final solution of the opium question had been reached and that the estimates consequently showed a decrease in the anticipated opium revenue. Some short while ago a report gained currency, that the instructions of the home government were to be carried out forthwith despite the protests of the farmers on the spot, who were to be compensated to the extent of \$50,000 a month for the closing of the opium dens before the expiry of their contract. The rumor on the face of it seemed highly incredible. The Colonial Office would not have gone in any case, to such extreme lengths, as to insist upon the Colony surrendering such a large source of revenue in addition to paying compensation to the farmer for the uneconomic privilege of making a huge financial sacrifice. The fact that the Budget for the ensuing year has been framed on the basis of the existing scale of farm rentals, may be taken as an indication that the home authorities are disposed, more or less to allow the existing opium farm leases to run out. If this course is actually decided upon, the embarrassing question of paying compensation to the farmer, would be solved without any pecuniary loss. Once the lease expires, the magnanimity of the farmer who had declared his intention not to claim compensation on account of the closing of the farms before the due date, need not be subjected to so crucial a test. In any eventuality it is almost a foregone conclusion that the days of the farming system in the Eastern Colonies are fast running out. But it must be admitted to its credit that its existence has stood as a formidable obstacle in the way of hasty and ill considered tampering with the fiscal system by the home Government. When once the farms are abolished, as they are bound to be in the not distant future, and import duties and Licensing fees take their place, the financial position of the Colonies and Protectorate would be rendered extremely precarious, for it could then be completely altered by a stroke of the pen to their great detriment.—*Pearl Flower*.

THE UNITED STATES.

Washington, October 15. The shortage of money for the campaign fund is causing considerable anxiety to the Republican Party. In a speech at Denver Mr. W. H. Taft has denounced the Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labour, for his non-law and member of Congress for Ohio, has expressed the opinion that Mr. Taft will be President for eight years and will then be followed by Mr. Roosevelt. Washington, October 15. Mr. T. W. Lawson, the well-known broker and author of "Frenzied Finance," has been injured in an accident caused by a runaway horse. The *New York Herald* forecasts that Mr. Bryan will gain New York City.—*N. C. D. News*.

THE YANGTSE STEAMSHIP SERVICES.

Japanese papers report that the combination recently formed between the China-Japan Steamship Company and British, French and German steamship companies on the Yangtze service to counteract the pool of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, Jardine Matheson & Co. and the China Navigation Company has collapsed after the expiration of only two months since its formation. The German steamship company, having intimated a desire to withdraw. Seeing that the steamers plying on the Yangtze have increased to about 10,000 tons in the past three years, the repetition of the keen competition witnessed a few months ago seems unavoidable, owing to the lack of sufficient cargo, says the *Japan Herald*. The seven steamship companies now on the service must either come to terms or compete to the bitter end. It is reported that the manager of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire recently intimated that it was possible to come to terms with the China-Japan steamship company, if the latter withdrew two liners out of six from the service to maintain the equilibrium with the combination of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, Jardine Matheson & Co., and the China Navigation Company. Inasmuch, however, as in granting the China-Japan Steamship Company an annual subsidy of Yen 800,000, the Japanese Government is prompted by a consideration of the importance which the Yangtze service has on Japanese influence in China, it is considered rather difficult for the Company to recede from the position it now occupies on the Yangtze. If it is impossible to come to terms otherwise, there will be no alternative but to contest the service by competition.

SHANGHAI'S FIRST AIRSHIP.

Obviously until Shanghai is able to boast of its own airship and aeroplane, it will be possible to accuse the Settlement of lagging behind the times. The reproach, however, is now in a fair way to being removed. Within three weeks we are promised a completed airship, ready very shortly afterwards, at a favourable opportunity, for its maiden flight. For the moment all there is to be seen of it is hundreds and hundreds of yards of Chefoo silk in the course of receiving seven coats of varnish and being carefully sewn together. In another corner of Chang Su-ho's Gardens, for the owner of the airship is Capt. J. W. Price, may be seen the framework of the car being put together under the aeronaut's immediate supervision. The engine has already arrived—a 10 h.p. Curtiss motor, weighing 50 lbs., capable of giving the propeller 1,500 revolutions a minute. The balloon is to be 75 ft. long and 20 ft. in its widest part. It will be pointed at each end and have a capacity of 10,000 cub. ft. of gas. The propeller will be in front and will draw the airship. By the Cricket Week inspection the balloon should be ready for inspection and the first flight may be expected on the 31st instant. If successful—and Captain Price, who is one of the original members of the American Aero Club, is confident of steering his craft all over the Settlement and returning to the place from which he started,—we may look forward to the inauguration of an Aero Club and from that it should be but a short flight to an aeroplane.—*N. C. D. News*.

NORTH CHINA INSURANCE CO., LD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The report for presentation at the fifth ordinary general meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the Company, No. 10, The Bund, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 20th October, 1908, at 4 p.m., is as follows:

ITALIAN CONVENT.

VISIT BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

In spite of the exigencies of official business, and the numerous calls on his Excellency's time, the Governor graciously consented to devote the best part of an afternoon yesterday to a visit to the Italian Convent. It is interesting to record that this was the first occasion when Sir Frederick went over the entire convent building and its extensive addition for the school and orphanage since his arrival in the Colony. His Excellency saw much of the educational and industrial value of the institution which is of so rare an asset to the Colony, let alone the charitable aspect of the unobtrusive work of the ladies whose spirit for good pervades the entire atmosphere of that most admirable—and at the same time most deserving of support—establishment in Hongkong.

On his visit yesterday afternoon, the Governor was accompanied by Capt. A. H. Hooper, A.D.C., and Mr. A. J. Brackenbury, private secretary. The orphans (Chinese and non-Chinese), the day-scholars and the boarders, from tiny tots to young ladies, welcomed the distinguished visitor as he entered the Convent gate at 3.30 o'clock in the afternoon. Long files of the hundreds of scholars arranged "in steps and stairs" greeted Sir Frederick with smiling countenance and pleasurable anticipations as His Excellency was escorted along the corridors. The sight was pleasing to see, and was such a one that those who had been privileged to behold would not soon forget. The poor little orphans, bereft of parental homes, found, within the hospitable walls of the Convent, their comfortable asylums wherein their every want was provided and instruction imparted towards their physical and moral elevation. These found their allotted places in the plan of arrangement for the welcome accorded the Governor. Nor were the orphans relegated to a position of secondary importance; they took part with the best of the social circles in the Convent. The day-scholars when the Governor did them the honour of visiting them at their everyday work and in the ordinary performance of their scholastic duties.

Sir Frederick was conducted round all the class rooms by the Superiores, the Rev. Mother Teresa Mariadoris, and Sister Anita. His Excellency was next asked to visit the needlework department of the school. The Governor felt great interest in the programme of studies, putting several test questions to the girls all of which were satisfactorily answered. He also examined the beautiful specimens of embroidery and lacework produced by the deft fingers of the Chinese orphans. It appeared that this branch of the Convent's teaching excited much admiration from His Excellency who complimented teachers and students alike on the excellence of the fine workmanship.

When the round of inspection had been completed, the visitors were shown into the drawing and painting studio where some pretty pictures formed the subject of examination.

Sir Frederick then invited to enter the large study hall of St. Agnes College as the large school in Cause Road is now known. Here all the orphans girls, the boarders and the day-scholars were assembled en masse to accord the Governor a fitting reception. His Excellency and suite were accommodated with seats on a dais to listen to the pretty Italian song "Eulitiamo" sung in chorus by hundreds of sweet little voices—the talented—accompaniment of one of the Sisters. The harmonious rendering of the song greatly pleased the Governor.

At the conclusion of the first part of the programme, little Jennie Lawrence, stepped forward and delivered, on behalf of the Sisters of the Convent and of her friends, the scholars, an address of welcome to the Governor, whose visit, she said, would long remain in the memory of the school and would act as an encouragement to them in the work they were called upon to do at school. She concluded by thanking the Governor most heartily for the honour of the visit.

Sir Frederick then rose and made a little speech in terms calculated to be understood by his interested audience. He thanked the Sisters for the kind reception he had received, and expressed his wonder and admiration at all he had himself seen that afternoon. After addressing the girls a few words of encouragement he assured them that he took deep interest in their work.

The assembled girls to the number of several hundreds then sang "God Save the King" in unison, and thus brought a memorable visit to a close.

The Governor was two hours visiting the Convent yesterday.

We are indebted by the Mother Superior to publicly thank the Governor, for herself and her entire Community, for the honour of His Excellency's visit to the Convent, an honour of which they feel deeply sensible.

OPIMUM IN SHANGHAI.

THE CLOSED HOUSES.

The second drawing of lots by proprietors of opium-smoking dens within the International Settlement to decide whose establishments should be closed in accordance with the resolution of the Ratepayers' meeting in March providing for the closing of 25 per cent of the opium dens and shops by July 1 and the remainder on or before December 31, 1909, took place at the Town Hall on Saturday afternoon, 3rd inst., when a second 25 per cent were drawn. The interest shown in the proceedings was not so great as on the former occasion, and no speeches were made. Mr. Char Laitong (comprodor to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.) and Mr. Si Ya-chung (comprodor to the Netherlands Bank) were present, at the invitation of the Municipal Council, to witness the proceedings, in order to give confidence to the Chinese concerned. Lieut.-Col. Bruce, Captain Superintendent of Police, and the Municipal Officers were also present at the drawing, the result of which showed that 350 opium establishments are to close their business by December 31 next.—N. C. D. News.

A GENEROUS GIFT.

BY AN ANONYMOUS DONOR.

A pleasant surprise was sprung on the Committee of Management of Union Church at its last meeting. Considerable repairs to the Church, the Manse, and the Church Hall have recently been in progress, including the making good of a large amount of damage by white ants and by the typhoid of the 27th of July; and an item on the agenda was the question as to how this expenditure was to be met. Mr. D. MacDonald, Convener of the Building Committee, reported that the outlay to date amounted to \$1,742.18; and then read a letter from Mr. R. W. Mitchell, stating that a member of the Church who desired to be anonymous had paid the sum for \$1,742.18, which, duly discharged, was laid on the table. A complete overhaul of the exterior of the Church building is about to be proceeded with, as soon as the dry season is established.—Communicated.

PEAGUE PROCEDURE.

DIRECTIONS FOR CLEANING PLAQUE INFECTED HOUSES.

The following directions were considered at the Sanitary Board meeting last Tuesday:—

1. On finding a suspicious case of plague, notify the M. O. H. at once.
2. Removal of sick must be to the district hospital where they are established or to the existing hospitals as may be decided by the M. O. H.
3. When a guard is required, the police must be applied to, but when anyone reports a case of sickness or a death in a house voluntarily the guard pending the diagnosis of the case may be dispensed with, provided that the occupants of the infected floor are willing to permit cleaning at once. In such a case, the tenants of the infected floor will be free to leave their like after giving up their clothing to be cleared of fleas or disinfected.
4. On receiving confirmation of the suspicion of plague in a house, proceed without delay to the house with the necessary assistance and equipment and cleanse.
5. The cleansing operations involving examination and possible disinfection of clothing are to be confined to the floor in which the case occurred, unless there is reason to believe that the sick person frequented other floors.
6. The whole of the house should, however, be cleaned and the tenants may do this themselves if they are willing. Cleansing solution must be given for this purpose. The cleansing must be to the satisfaction of the inspector in charge.
7. In cases where it is considered necessary to pull down ceilings, etc., in other than infected floors, the tenants may, if they wish, assist by first removing their furniture and afterwards clearing away the debris, but the Board's officers must see that the debris is properly sprayed with flea-killing solution before removal. The joints, etc., exposed by such removal of ceilings or lining should also be sprayed.
8. Wood debris after being well soaked with the flea-killing solution may be left for the use of the tenants.
9. People turned out of houses on account of plague when such are closed by the Board must be always offered shelter in the blocks of houses rented by the Board for this purpose and help in the removal of their effects to such shelters must be offered.
10. The disinfecting operations are to be done in a manner laid down in the attached directions.
11. Before proceeding to a house where an infectious disease has occurred to disinfect, the inspector must notify the nearest T. W. H. Branch Office and mention the time when he will begin the disinfection in order that a representative of the T. W. H. Branch Office may be present at the disinfection. He must also, call on one of the Kai Fong of the district to attend the disinfection for the valuation of any property destroyed.

DIRECTIONS FOR CLEANING PLAQUE INFECTED HOUSES.

1. Open all windows and doors and let light and air into the rooms.
2. Spray the floors, cubicle partitions, stairs and stair landings with flea-killing solution (2 per cent).
3. Make a correct inventory of all articles which are to be sent to the steam disinfectory, or otherwise disinfected, as the Medical Officer may direct. The patient's soiled clothing and bedding must be removed for disinfection except if the owners are willing to wash it themselves, soap being supplied for the purpose if necessary. If there should be any dispute as to whether any articles of clothing, etc., must be disinfected, such must not be removed before the M. O. H. or A. M. O. H. so decides.
4. If necessary, move all the furniture from the rooms to be disinfected into the verandah, yard or street, and wash with the flea-killing solution.
5. (a) Spray whole surface of the yard to which the contents and any courts, passages, lanes, by-ways and latrines with the flea-killing solution.
6. (b) Scrape up and collect all filth, dirt, refuse, rags and rubbish, contents of gully-traps, bins and drains, spray with flea-killing solution and remove to dust cart.
7. (c) Examine carefully all sanitary appliances, all drains, inspection chambers, ventilators, waste pipe inlets, etc., and note any defect and the work necessary to make it good, in order that the work may be put in hand at once.
8. All ceilings, partitions, linings, which appear to harbour rats or to be rat-ridden to be reported to the M. O. H. or A. M. O. H. and a search to be made for rat runs. Fill up all rat holes with broken glass and cement. Rats coming from their runs should be immediately killed and a man should be especially detailed for the purpose when any fitting is being taken down and rat runs exposed. All dead rats should have flea-killing solution immediately thrown on to them and be removed by a pair of tongs.
9. Any fittings, e.g., ceiling, flooring, etc., of which the M. O. H. has ordered removal, must be sprayed with the flea-killing solution and the parts of the building then exposed must be treated in the same way after the resulting useless refuse has been removed. On the completion of the cleansing of the house all the windows on the ground floor if vacant should be securely fastened and all those on the upper floors left open at the top. All external doors should be fastened and the key of the front door handed to the owner in cases where the house is vacant.

(Sd.), W. W. PRABE,
Medical Officer of Health.

N.B.—The average amount of flea-killing solution required per floor should be about two gallons of crude or two gallons of solution of the flea-killing mixture.

Mr. A. Shelton Hooper inquired:—Who has to carry out these instructions? They are not addressed to anyone.

CHINA AND TIBET.

J. F. Chao Er-feng, Imperial High Commissioner of Defence for the Pichuan-Tibetan border, who was recently ordered by Imperial edict to make a tour of inspection over Tibet and survey the country, with the object of dividing it into provinces, prefectures, districts, etc., seems to have been encountering a great deal of opposition. According to a telegram received by the Central Government the other day from H.E. Lieut. V. Imperial Resident at Lhasa, the Tibetans are being incited by the Lamas to resist any innovations that may lessen the power of the latter over the former, and the flat has gone forth to prevent H.E. Chao Er-feng from entering the Tibetan frontiers. In view, however, of the fact that he is escorted by a strong force of disciplined and well-armed troops, his Excellency has brushed aside, so far, any resistance to his progress; and this course is said to have aroused a good deal of indignation amongst the Lamas, who threaten to go about and preach a holy war against the Chinese, if Chao Er-feng persists in further invading the sacred land of Rhod. In view of these, to him, alarming tidings, the Imperial Resident at Lhasa asks the Central Government to rescind its orders to the Frontier High Commissioner to send the Dalai Lama immediately back to Lhasa, where by his presence he may be able to keep down the hostility of the Tibetans to the Chinese.—N. C. D. News.

THE TRADE DEPRESSION.

ITS CAUSES AND CURE.

BY A JAPANESE BUSINESS MAN.

CAUSES.

The factors which have brought about the existing stringency in the money market, are many and various. In the following paragraphs, however, discussion is limited only to those of great importance. These are five in number.

I.—GREAT INCREASE IN POSTAL SAVINGS.

DEPOSITS.

The effect of the above upon the money market is but small in comparison with Causes Nos. III. and IV. However, the rapid augmentation of postal deposits in recent years is in itself a remarkable feature presented by our money market, and it has undoubtedly contributed towards creating the existing depression in business circles. The rate of increase in postal savings in the past few years may be seen from the following table:—

No. of Depositors.	Amount.
1900	1,843,252
1901	2,271,799
1902	2,707,118
1903	3,127,658
1904	4,583,355
1905	5,685,551
1906	7,414,439
1907	7,659,608
1908 (June)	8,217,112

The cause of the steady growth of postal savings shown above is the encouragement given by the Government in the form of repeated raising of interest, together with the method of postal savings remittances adopted in March 1906. When the system of postal savings was first introduced into Japan in 1887, the interest allowed was no more than 3 per cent, which, after a gradual increase, now stands at 5.05 per cent. In addition to the system above alluded to, the postal savings remittance method, a gigantic Government undertaking for facilitating remittances without commission, has evidently had much to do with the great increase. That an increase in the amount of postal deposits does not in itself constitute any source of anxiety, and even serve to form a forecast of a nation's future development, is a matter of course. However, this expansion may be enough to determine whether the phenomenon is a matter of congratulation or not, that the increase in postal savings has caused a decrease in banking deposits which indicates the flow of funds from the banks into the treasury, where money is of little avail for the relief of strained monetary situation.

II.—NATIONALISATION OF RAILWAYS.

This may be counted among other elements which have brought about the existing financial situation, though its effect thereon may not be as great as Nos. III. and IV. Railway nationalisation has brought about the result that the net profit of the seventeen lines, yearly amounting to tens of millions of yen, is now locked up in the treasury of the Government; the funds might, otherwise, have gone to the relief of the situation if left in the hands of bankers as deposits.

III.—MISMANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL FINANCES.

The mismanagement of our national finances on the part of the Government constitutes one of the principal causes which have created the existing stringency in the money market.

(a) The great suppression of industrial and commercial expenditure as well as the levying of almost exorbitant heavy taxes as compared with the extraordinary augmentation of national expenditure in recent years. The following table will show the rate of increase of national expenditure during the past fifteen years, which period is, for convenience, divided into three terms of five years each:—

First term, 1891-1895	¥775,738,743
Second " 1896-1900	1,352,595,283
Third " 1901-1905	2,458,446,937

(The calculation for 1907-1908 represents the Budget estimate.)

On reference to the above table, it will be seen that though not a little increase is noticeable in the expenditure for the second term as compared with the first, yet the outlay for the whole term does not exceed ¥1,350,000,000, whereas that for the last term, since the late Russo-Japanese war, exceeds the considerably large sum of ¥2,400,000,000. In the Japan-China war, ¥200,000,000 was expended as war funds, for which, in return, ¥300,000,000 was received as indemnity. In the late Russo-Japanese war, the funds expended on the war reached ¥1,600,000,000, for which no indemnity was obtained except ¥400,000,000, which our Government had actually spent in connection with the Russian prisoners. When the ¥1,400,000,000 is added to the figures given above, the enormous sum of ¥4,000,000,000 is reached, representing the total expenditure over the third term. When the enormous expenditure ranged from the two years ending 1903, there was already an outcry against heavy taxation and a general airing of grievances among the people at large. Since then, no doubt, our national wealth has been greatly increased. Nevertheless, it is not surprising that the national expenditure, even with the augmentation in wealth, should have reached the enormous sum of ¥4,000,000,000 during the last quinquennial period. The causes which have brought about this startling condition are no other than the late national budgets, which together have combined to create the heavy taxes, as well as the absorption of home capital and the consequent existing depression, while the introduction of foreign capital necessitated the flowing out of interest.

(b) The rapid augmentation of the national debt as a result of frequent issues of national loan bonds since the war.

The rate of increase of our national debt during recent years may be seen from the following table:—

Years.	Amount of National Loans.
1897	¥ 421,245,928
1902	552,108,811
1903	561,509,751
1904	991,288,140
1905	1,872,381,127
1906	2,217,727,753
1907	2,128,345,191
1908 (to July)	2,554,164,352

Comparing the figures for 1906 with those for 1903, the year preceding the war, an increase of about ¥1,700,000,000 is to be seen in the national debt. This enormous expansion of our national liability without a shadow of doubt, has sensibly affected the money market. Of the late increase, about ¥1,000,000,000 was raised at home, while the balance of ¥700,000,000 was raised at home. Home loans have robbed merchants and producers of their circulating capital and placed it in the treasury of the Government, where it is of no avail for production, whereas, on account of foreign loans specifically amounting to ¥450,000,000, yearly flowing out an interest with a resultant fall in our national credit and the consequent existing depression in the foreign market. Such being the case, it cannot be denied that our home production has seriously been hampered by the increase in the national debt, which has apparently constituted one of the principal factors in the existing financial depression.

IV.—DRAWBACKS IN FOREIGN TRADE.

Trade during last year seemed at first to be very favourable, showing that it did large exports of raw silk and other articles. The great fall in silver in September and October last, however, considerably impeded our trade with China, while, on the other hand, the export trade in general has sustained a serious blow from the prevailing business depression in Europe and America. To imports, the position was exactly reversed, the innumerable enterprises inaugurated after the war causing the import figures to swell enormously. In these circumstances, last year closed with an excess of imports amounting to ¥61,000,000. This year the same tendency is still apparent, exports decreasing while imports are still further swelling. That the excess of imports—amounting to 83 millions at the end of August—does not necessarily constitute a source of anxiety is beyond question, and we could hardly escape the imputation of hasty judgment if we entertained pessimistic views on the situation solely because the balance of trade is on the side of imports. In the present case, however, even the intelligence of a three-year-old child—as a Japanese proverb has it—would be able to comprehend whether the existing phenomenon is favourable to our country or not, inasmuch as the facts show that the excess of imports in the present case has been brought about by the unfavourable state of our export trade, maladministration of national finances, and other like causes. An excess in imports caused a decrease in hard cash in the country. Consequently the Government adopted the policy of restricting the number of its convertible bonds floating on the market, a policy which has its specific reserve on a similar basis, with the result that the notes in circulation, amounting to ¥350,000,000 at the end of last year, have been diminished by ¥100,000,000 in value within the lapse of a few months. The diminution in the number of Government notes has produced the following effect, viz:—

V.—THE FALL IN THE PRICES OF COMMODITIES.

That a fall in the prices of commodities must inevitably follow a decrease in the amount of currency in a country is a fact clearly proved by reference to any book on political economy. A decline in prices of commodities involves a decrease in business transactions, and this is what has apparently caused the present depression in business.

In the next article I shall present a scheme which I believe would form a cure for the present state of things.

THE CURE.

I.—CONSOLIDATION OF NATIONAL FINANCES.

In treating of our national finances, the difficulties that first confront us are embodied in the following two questions, which naturally invite solution before methods of relief can be entered upon.

(a) The redemption of Government loans is indispensable in consolidating our national finances. Where, then, can we get the funds necessary for carrying out this object at the present juncture, when the stringency of the money market is still pronounced?

(b) The present state of the world's affairs, it may be said, can no country can be too quick in promoting enterprises essential for the encouragement of her productions, such as waterworks, extensions of railways, or improvements to mercantile ports. The required outlay for the realisation of the above schemes, in the present circumstances of the national finances, can only be procured through the issue of loans; but these are already inflated to such large figures as to constitute one of the most important factors in the financial disturbance.

Two difficulties above alluded to can only be obviated if the following measures are immediately adopted by responsible financiers:—

- 1.—A great curtailment in the national expenditure; the postponement of projected military and other unproductive enterprises.
- 2.—The adjustment of the various existing taxes, such as the extraordinary war tax, which has proved a serious obstacle in the path of national progress.
- 3.—A division of the present loans into two classes, according to their objects—in other words, whether they are intended for productive enterprises or otherwise.

(a) Unproductive loans in their nature should first be redeemed to relieve the situation. This can be effected as long as the diminution in national expenditure yields an increase in revenue. The scheme had already been twice resorted to by the Government, but owing to certain defects attending the repayment of the loans, the scheme has failed to satisfy the wishes of business-men.

It is to be hoped, therefore, that in the proposed redemption, more attention will be paid to the method of refunding the money, as well as to the attitude of the Government in this respect, which has not a little weight on the market.

(b) As for productive loans, they should be left untouched.

To explain further what I have stated above, at the present time when the increase of various taxes has reached a climax, nothing but the curtailment of expenditure can procure for the country the necessary revenue already referred to. As for the question whether they are for productive or unproductive undertakings, an important bearing on the same has been already pointed out. Loans for productive purposes are in a similar position to the shares of a joint-stock company, the credit which the latter enjoy among shareholders being determined by the results of the working of the undertakings for which they are issued. If the profit is small, stockholders will by no means be satisfied even if they are partially redeemed whereas if the revenue is large, the shares or loans are quite likely to enjoy a high credit among the subscribers.

It is to be hoped that measures to the above effect will speedily be taken by the Government, and our national finances be thus placed on a sound basis.

It is as for the wounds inflicted on our financial circles by the business depression abroad, no artificial operation would be of any avail; it therefore behooves us to wait with hope and patience for a period of self-recovery.

II.—IMPROVEMENT IN THE MORAL STANDARD OF THE NATION.

Speculative mania which was once prevalent throughout the country caused the disappearance from almost every individual of the excellent habits of diligence and frugality, and in place thereof, extravagance and idleness made their appearance and swayed all classes of people, high and low. The injuries our country sustained therefrom from a monetary point of view, not to mention the loss in this harmful development in the early part of last year, some evidences had been noticeable, which would indicate the energies of men were being once more diverted to their former tendencies towards industry and economy. Unfortunately this sentiment was unable to resist for long the overwhelming flood of extravagance and waste.

PENANG HILLS RAILWAY.

UNSATISFACTORY CONDITION OF THE SCHEME.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY HONGKONG ENGINEER.

A few months ago, Mr. A. Denison, M. Inst. C.E. of Hongkong, was called upon by the Government of the Straits Settlements to prepare a report upon the Penang Hills Railway, from Ayer Etam to the road below the Government House at the Peak, and to make any suggestion for the practical working of the scheme. This report formed one of the papers laid on the table at the Legislative Council meeting, yesterday, by command of His Excellency the Governor.

The line of the railway has been badly chosen both at the bottom and the top, where there are several unnecessary curves, says Mr. Denison. The changes in the gradients are far too abrupt, both in design and as carried out, but especially the latter, in some cases the gradient changing with a perceptible angle. The curve in the line are in many cases due to a concave change of gradient, which would make the working of the line highly dangerous, if not impossible, as the means adopted for keeping the rope down on the rollers are of the most flimsy description, being small mushroom rollers about three inches diameter with a large flange at the top. They are held down by a small split pin about a quarter of an inch thick. The changes in gradient could have been considerably improved at small expense, and most of the curves in the line could have been left out.

The track has been made as though the line had been a level one, being made of three or four inches of broken stone ballast laid on soft yellow earth. As might have been expected, on the steeper parts of the track, this has been entirely washed away by the rain, together with a good part of the embankment, and even in the cuttings the ground, being of yellow earth, has been considerably eroded.

I consider the rails, which are about 30 lbs. per yard in weight, are heavy enough for the light carriages capable of carrying twenty persons, but when the traffic increases, which, from experience of similar railways, is, in my opinion, inevitable, heavier carriages with more accommodation would be required and heavier rails would be necessary. By that time, however, the rails would require to be renewed and any case would require to be renewed and the gauge in my opinion, too narrow, and the carriages going round the curves would have a tendency to overturn, especially if the passengers were on one side as might happen on a sunny day.

The sleepers, joints and fastenings are too light and the outer rails which have to bear all the strain of the grip brakes in case of sudden stoppage of a car on the down grade, are not held down as sleepers inserted under a bent piece of the sleeper on one side of the rail in the damp climate of Penang, this is not safe, and I observed that several wedges had fallen out although the line has never been worked. With the vibration caused by the rope running over the rollers and passing carriages, I doubt if any wedges would remain in place after a week's working of the line. The rails are joined together at the ends a single slab plate under the flange, but are not held down to the track except by the small wedges above mentioned. In the case of a rail being gripped by the brakes just below a joint, in my opinion the rail would be torn up and the carriage upset.

SYSTEM UNSUITABLE.

Mr. Denison goes on to say that both the horizontal and vertical rollers are far too small in diameter. The rollers are far too many in number, and would cause too much friction on the rope. With larger rollers and half the number, there would have been a very considerable saving of power. The rope was quite useless for its purpose, being more or less rusty and in several places the strands are broken. He does not consider the system of working the railway suitable, especially for a cableway having a continuous rope with heavy compensation balance weights to keep the rope tight in so great a weight as is required to power out of all proportion to what is required to work the cars. The power supplied is from a pair of Pelton water wheels, with three-eighth inch nozzles which gave a horsepower of about 10. The power necessary to work the line as constructed, even if it were safe to do so, Mr. Denison considers would be considerably over 200 horsepower, or quite twelve times the power supplied.

The carriages are constructed too lightly for the gradients, and would require constant repairs, and the doors will not open properly when the cars are in the station. As constructed with the brakes only on one rail, if the car were rounding a curve with the brake wheels outward and the brake were suddenly put on, the car would most likely overturn from centrifugal force. There are far better safety brakes equally simple and far more effective.

SIGNALLING.

Mr. Denison points out that the signal wires have been broken down to a great extent, but probably when they were new they would have been more effective. The pulleys at the top of the line on which comes all the strain of both the cars and the rope is quite inadequate for the purpose for which it was intended, being carried on two small steel joints bedded at the ends in small concrete piers. The first pull on the rope would have pulled the whole thing down the hill. There are no stalopes or platforms except at the bottom of the line. The tank for supplying water to work the wheels was full of weeds and dirt, and as far as could be seen, the supply of water would be insufficient to work the line continuously, and what little water there was had been diverted.

Under the heading of recommendations Mr. Denison proposes that the line, both at the top and bottom, should be diverted. The middle part of the line from about 2,000 feet from the bottom to about 5,000 feet is practically straight horizontally, and it will be an easy matter to continue this straight part downwards from the large boulders at 1,500 feet, passing about 20 feet clear of and to the east of the Chinese temple now being enlarged, crossing the approach steps of the temple, either over them or under as shall be found most expedient, the passing down along the west side of their approach road between it and the mulish, the

bottom end of the line being about 250 feet nearer Ayer Etam than it is at present, thus doing away with the three curves at the bottom part of the line. The existing embankment made for a branch of the electric tramway could be utilised as part of the main line and continued to Ayer Etam to form a loop line.

At the top part of the line there are three very severe curves of comparatively small radius, beginning at about 5,000 feet from the bottom, which cause considerable friction on the cable, or would if it were working, and the largest curve is on a dip in the line. Mr. Denison proposes that this curve be abandoned entirely and the rails taken up. A new track should commence at 5,200 feet with a slight curve on an even gradient, of about 1,000 feet radius, crossing Monks' Road further to the north than at present and passing up the valley to the west of the Strawberry Bungalow, the top of the line being level with the public road at about 3,400 feet above sea level.

The position of the passing place half way up the track Mr. Denison does not propose to alter as it is on a straight piece of line of even gradient. The nature of the soil is such that it will be necessary to construct the whole of the track with a proper channel on each side where the line passes through a cuttings. All embankments should be covered with a few inches of vegetable soil and turfed. Many of the embankments have been washed away because the grass was only growing in loose sandy soil and yellow soil. Unless the track is properly protected, it is liable to be washed away by any heavy shower. If it can be done, should advise that all embankments should be pitched with stones of a cubic foot or so in size.

MR. DENISON'S ADVICE.

All dips in the line or vertical curves should have a radius of at least 4,000 feet if possible, so as to prevent the rope rising off the rollers to any extent when working.

If the line is reconstructed as mentioned, Mr. Denison advises that the gauge be increased from 2 feet 6 inches to about four feet, and the present sleepers should be replaced by stronger and heavier ones, which should be bedded in the cement concrete covering the track. All pulleys should be made simply so that they can be replaced locally as they wear out. The rope should not be endless as at present, but should go simply from one car to the other, passing round the driving drums at the bottom of the line, and the length of cable required will only be 3 miles instead of 3. This will save at least \$1,000 per annum in cost of cables, and the friction on the rope and the power required to overcome it will also be reduced by one-half.

As regards the power, Mr. Denison advocates the sale of the Pelton with machinery and piping, and the obtaining of power from a high pressure engine and boiler situated at the top end of the line. As the traffic increases, larger cars will be required and a heavier rope, but the power recommended will be sufficient for two cars with thirty passengers each.

Regarding the cars, Mr. Denison recommends those in use on the Hongkong Peak Tramway. When the car is in motion the grips are kept off the rails by a lever held by the brakeman. When the lever is let go the brakes are put on. They can also be supplied with a governor which applies the brakes when the car goes down the line at a greater speed than say 15 miles an hour. The grips are put on and closed by powerful right and left hand screws worked by a cog-wheel which, when the lever is released, engages a piston on each axle of the car. If the car is going up the line the brakes do not act, as there is no danger of breaking the rope if the brake is accidentally put on.

HONGKONG PEAK TRAMWAY.

With regard to the advisability of reconstructing and completing the railway, adds Mr. Denison, I may mention that before the Hongkong Peak Tramway was started the price of land at the Peak was one cent per square foot and the Crown rent about \$10 per acre per annum. Within two years of its completion, 50 cents per square foot was paid for land with that Crown rent, and the uprate price for Crown land was increased within five years to 15 cents per square foot and the Crown rent to \$50 per acre per annum for very inferior sites as compared with the earlier lots sold at one cent per foot and \$10 per acre.

The capital of the company was \$125,000, and for some years the net profits have been between \$40,000 and \$50,000 per annum.

The traffic receipts in the last 15 years have increased from \$27,000 to \$96,000, although the fares in certain cases were reduced and cheap tickets issued in recent years.

I have no doubt that if the Penang Hill Railway were completed and in working order, a settlement would soon be built on the high levels which would be a health resort for the whole of the Malay States.

Mr. Denison estimates that the sum of \$195,000 is required for labour materials and machinery for alteration and completion of the line in running order.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

The following application from Dr. Macfarlane, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, was considered by the members of the Sanitary Board at their fortnightly meeting last Tuesday afternoon.

TRIAL TRIPS.

CHINESE PATROL CRUISERS ON THEIR SPEED RUN.

As announced in these columns last week would be the case, the trial trips of the two cruisers for the West River patrol service, built by the Hongkong Dock Co., took place yesterday and to-day. The *Kiang Ta*, the first of the completed vessels, took precedence over her sister ship in the trial run; she was the one to go out yesterday. The trip occupied the whole of the day. Leaving her buoy at an early hour in the forenoon, the *Kiang Ta* had a distinguished party of Chinese Naval officers and Dock Co. officials on board. They comprised Commodore Lin Tak Cheong, A.D.C. to Admiral Li-Chung, commander-in-chief of the Kwangtung Navy; Commander Liu, Fleet-Engineer Chung Ping Yuen, Captains Wu Kwong Tsung and Chengling; Mr. H. Mitchell, chief engineer; Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. Ltd., members of the Knowledge Dock staff, and Capt. T. Hall, superintendent, on behalf of the Chinese Government.

Turning her bows seaward the *Kiang Ta* steamed past the Bay into the Northern Fairway and shaping a course in the direction of Cap-sui-mun, soon out of sight in the harbour. Her engines were put to severe tests over a somewhat lengthy run from Cap-sui-mun towards Boca Tigris in Canton River, and back. The vessel behaved admirably at sea.

A stop was made for luncheon and when the *Kiang Ta* returned to the harbour it was already dark.

No test could be made with the wireless installation yesterday as the entire equipment has not yet been completed on board. Nor has the searchlight been tried. Both these installations will be tested before the delivery of the vessel to the Canton Provincial Government in a week's time.

The *Kiang Chi*, sister ship of the *Kiang Ta*, underwent her trial trip to-day. She did not cover quite the same distance as the latter vessel yesterday on account of the inclemency of the weather. The choppy sea out at Deep Bay, however, gave the opportunity of ascertaining the high-sea qualities of the cruiser. Despite the fact that the boat was built for river service she behaved admirably in the high sea to-day. No discomfort whatever was felt by those on board of her as the *Kiang Chi* sped on her run through the somewhat turbulent water and when she returned to her buoy early in the afternoon her builders were complimented on the excellent behaviour of the new cruiser.

The *Kiang Chi* is also expected to be ready to be delivered to the Chinese Government in the course of this month.

THE AMERICAN FLEET.

DEPARTURE FOR CHINA AND JAPAN.

At six o'clock this evening Admiral Sperry's fleet will weigh anchor and depart for Yokohama. The ships have all been coalled, the last ship taking on her supply yesterday afternoon. A wireless message from Admiral Sperry conveyed orders to all the officers ashore in Manila to return before 9.30 last night as the small boats would all be hoisted aboard, by that hour, on account of the typhoon. The sunset gave a crimsoning of the sky from horizon to zenith, did not, like the old saying about a red sky at night, bring the sailor's delight, evidently, for the bay grew more and more dangerous from then on.

From what can be learned here the preparations for the reception of the American fleet by the Japanese surpass anything that has ever before been attempted by that nation. For months past the Army Department has been busy organising a reception to meet the fleet. While this squadron will not be the equal of Admiral Sperry's fleet in point of armament, etc., the vessels composing it will outnumber the Japanese. Nineteen ships of the Japanese Navy are included in this reception fleet. It is understood that at least a part of these vessels will meet the fleet some distance out and escort it to Yokohama harbour. The vessels stay at Yokohama one week, where arrangements have been made for the entertainment of the officers and men. The most elaborate functions of the reception will take place in Tokyo, it is understood, where the Mikado will receive Admiral Sperry, his division commanders and ship captains. It is probable that the Emperor will also give some form of entertainment in honour of the visitors. The higher officials of the Japanese Navy will be at Yokohama to meet the fleet and will take charge of all the entertainments in honour of the visitors.

The fleet will leave Manila bay this evening in the order in which it came, with the *Cole* leading and the *Albatross* following in order. The course will be laid straight for Yokohama and it is understood that no manoeuvring will be attempted. Admiral Sperry and his officers are watching the typhoon movements closely, as they are likely to strike somewhere in the China Sea even if it misses Manila. They will therefore steam north with the utmost care to prevent any untoward event marred, their enjoyment of the reception in Japan.

One of the first things Admiral Sperry will have to do on reaching Yokohama will be to review the fleet and to confer with the Japanese officials. The arguments were presented to the court yesterday and the members, it is stated, will present their decision to the admiral to-day. Whatever verdict is reached it is hardly possible that any public announcement will be made until after the papers have been reviewed in Washington. The case is one which involves the commission of the officer in question and only the President can take final action. If the verdict is for acquittal the fact that this is the case can be learned by the restoration of the officer to the full enjoyment of his prerogatives under his commission. It is understood that the evidence in the case has been favourable to Lieutenant Evans. He was charged with "being drunk on duty, leaving his post and with speaking disrespectfully to his superior. The accused officer brought several witnesses to disprove the first charge, among them the ship's surgeon, who examined him at the time, and several of his fellow officers; he also produced evidence to show that he had left his post on duty to another officer while he went below in the performance of his duties as officer in charge of the ship. He said he had gone below to quell a disturbance and in reported to have brought witnesses to prove that he did go below and did speak to some men who were making a noise, causing them to be quiet. The third charge was the result of the accusation of drunkenness made at the time and the accused endeavoured to show that the disrespect was more in his manner than in his words and grew out of his indignation at the injustice of the charge against him.

The evidence of Surgeon Wentworth was positive. He swore that Lieutenant Evans was not drunk and that he examined him immediately after he was reported to Captain Miles for drunkenness.

RAI DESTRUCTION.

MINUTE BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

The following letter from Government, to go with a minute by His Excellency the Governor relative to rat destruction, was laid on the table at the meeting of the Sanitary Board last Tuesday afternoon:

Colonial Secretary's Office,
30th September, 1908.

Sir,—With reference to the correspondence with the margin I am directed to acquaint you for the information of the Sanitary Board that the question of destroying rats by means of poison has been engaging the attention of the Government, and in connection with this subject, I am to transmit, for the consideration of the Board, the enclosed copy of a minute by the Governor.

His Excellency will be glad to learn whether the Board consider poisoning of rats on a large scale advisable and desirable.—I am, etc.,

F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
Sanitary Board.

Hon. Colonial Secretary.—As I have noted in many previous minutes, I am heartily in accord with the policy of exterminating the rat, and I considered that this was the crux of the problem long before the researches of the recent Indian Plague Commission demonstrated so conclusively that *P. Cheppis* is practically the sole agent in plague infection. We have inquired from India what they consider to be the best poison, and what precautions they have found it useful to adopt to prevent children and domestic animals from being injured by rat-poison and when we receive their report, the Sanitary Board will have high authority to guide them in their methods of conducting the campaign. It will be for them to decide the class of poison to be used, and the method in which it should be used so as to avoid danger. It will be also for them to decide at what time it would be best to issue the poison and prosecute the campaign. The two best periods are, undoubtedly, (a) just before the plague season, and (b) just before and during the breeding season. The bacteriologist can inform the Board from his examination what is the breeding season, i.e., when most pregnant females are caught, and whether that season coincides with the period before the outbreak of the annual epidemic. But the Board must not lose sight of the equally important point of using every effort to prevent the ingress of rats to domestic buildings, i.e., by filling up rat-holes, placing gratings over pipes, etc.

The P. C. M. observes (a) that rats have not the same domestic habits as they have in England. Our present model is, however, India, not England, and rats are at least as domestic here as in India; (b) that good, ratting cats avoid plague rats. That is probably true, but the argument is that the presence of a cat scares rats away, even if the cat does not catch many. If rats are scared out of the domestic dwellings into the drains and sewers, the carcasses of these dying of plague, and the fleas escaping from them will be carried away and will not spread plague among the human population; (c) that cats occasionally contract plague, but he adds at (d) that cat fleas do not transmit the disease, so that it matters little even if a few cats do contract plague.

This question should be again, and without undue delay, brought before the Sanitary Board in order to invite their opinion as to the advisability of instituting a period of general poisoning and the methods to be adopted to minimise danger. I am confident that should the Board concur in the views I have expressed, the Chinese members and the Registrar-General will do their utmost to obtain the hearty co-operation of all Chinese of all classes in the scheme decided on, and that the Tung Wa will assist in every way in its power. The poisoning should be limited to a short period and the people should be warned and be especially exhorted not to throw away any scraps of food, etc., during that period in order that rats may be forced to eat the poisoned bait.

(Sd.) F. D. LUGARD.

28.9.08.

Lieut. Col. J. M. Reid, R.A.M.C., minute:—The distribution of a poison such as phosphorus (the effects of which on the human subject may not be immediately apparent) in quantities sufficient to make an appreciable reduction in the number of rats will require the greatest care and the constant supervision of each house treated.

Mr. A. Shelton Hooper:—I am in favour of trying this experiment this winter, but the greatest care must be exercised in the distribution of the poison, and in the collection and destruction of the house refuse where the poison may have been laid, otherwise the utensils in which food is prepared may get contaminated and human lives lost.

The Hon. Registrar-General:—The poison should be in doses, not big enough to kill a child. At the end of the poisoning period, the house should be cleaned, the floors not to be walked on, or they will sooner or later get into children's mouths. The door should be shut and just what one child naturally would put in its mouth.

DEATH OF MR. J. A. ROSS.

It is with much regret that we have to record the death, which took place early yesterday morning at the Victoria Nursing Home, of Mr. John A. Ross, accountant of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, says the *N.C. News* of 5th inst. Less than a fortnight ago, Mr. Ross developed liver trouble and an operation was performed with such success that his early recovery seemed assured; but the appearance of further complications rendered another operation necessary, and from this he never rallied. Mr. Ross had an experience of about twenty years abroad in the service of the Chartered Bank at various points and was held in high esteem, not only for his business abilities, but for his kindly disposition, which had earned for him the affection and respect of his colleagues and the entire staff, by whom his untimely death is deeply deplored. His death at the early age of 34 will cause widespread regret amongst his numerous friends and in Masonic circles, where he occupied a prominent place, and the deepest sympathy is felt for his widow, and for relatives at home.

THE TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

The report and accounts of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha for the last half-year, approved at a general meeting of the company last week, show that the profit for the period amounted to ¥20,713, including a surplus of ¥8,474 brought over. Of this sum, ¥13,300 was placed to the reserve, ¥13,300 distributed among shareholders as a dividend at the rate of 1 per cent. on ordinary shares and 12 per cent. on preferential shares, and the balance of ¥7,813 carried forward.

CATILE DISEASE.

OUTBREAK OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

The following letter from Mr. Adam Gibson, the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, was considered at a special meeting of the Sanitary Board last Wednesday afternoon:

Sanitary Board Offices,
14th October, 1908.

Sir,—I have the honour to report for the information of the Board that foot and mouth disease exists among the cows at Kennedy Stables.

Yesterday afternoon, the manager reported to me that he had some cows ill and that it appeared to be something infectious. I went down and found several cows suffering from foot and mouth disease. There are 45 cows in all, including 4 bull and some young stock. I beg to recommend that the Board declare the cowsheds of Kennedy Stables to be an infected area under Sections 1 and 13 of Importation and Inspection of Animals By-laws of Ordinance No. 1903.

I have already closed the place provisionally and also the selling of milk.—I have, etc.,

ADAM GIBSON,
Colonial Veterinary Surgeon.

The Secretary,
Sanitary Board.

At the meeting of the members this afternoon, it was decided to declare Kennedy Stables an infected area.

TRADE MARKS.

SHANGHAI TAOTAI'S PROCLAMATION.

The following is a translation of a proclamation issued by His Honour Tsai Nai-huang, the Taotai. A similar proclamation has been issued at Hankow says the *N.C. News*.

Tsai, wearing button of the 2nd Grade and the Peacock's Feather by Imperial Command and Grace, Military Intendant of Circuit for Soochow, Sungkiang and Taitang.

In the matter of issuing a proclamation of prohibition.

The Taotai is in receipt of a letter from Sir Pelham Warren, the British Consul General, saying that Messrs. Drummond, White, Cooper and Phillips, the representatives of the Price Candies Co., had reported to him that the Candies Co. had on their outside wrappers the trade-mark of a sailing ship which had been registered. They are known in the market as "Ship Brand Candies." That lately there had been shameless characters manufacturing inferior candies for consumption, the outside wrappers of which also bore a sailing ship trade-mark. Though this imitated mark differed slightly from the Company's mark, ignorant parties merely recognized the "Ship" mark without making any distinction.

From comparison of a wrapper bearing the imitated mark sent by Ningpo with the Company's trade mark, it was found that the difference between them was very slight, and it showed that the imitators intentionally imitated the trade mark to obtain profits.

Although candies bearing false marks were not yet sold in the Shanghai market, it was feared that in quiet villages and out-of-the-way places, they would be offered for sale. They, therefore, requested the Consul-General to communicate with the Taotai asking him to issue a proclamation prohibiting imitations of their trade mark on wrappers of candies manufactured and sold in the market. The Consul-General forwarded enclosed two wrappers submitted by the Company bearing the true and false trade-marks.

The Taotai on receipt of the letter replied to same, and it became his duty to issue a proclamation of prohibition.

This proclamation is hereby issued for the information of merchants that they should not imitate the trade-mark of a sailing vessel on candies, they may manufacture and offer them for sale with a view to deceive customers.

Any violation when prosecuted will be punished. Let all obey this special proclamation!

Dated the 30th day of 5th moon 34th year of Kuangshu.

Seal of Taotai.

METHODS OF THE JAPANESE PICKPOCKET.

REMARKABLE EXPERIENCE ON THE RAILWAY.

An Englishman who was proceeding by the night express from Tokyo to Kobe on Friday last had the unique experience of witnessing the tactics of the Japanese pickpocket and of learning something in regard to the extraordinary indifference that prevails in this country regarding such a trivial occurrence as the robbing of the public.

The passenger in question did not venture on the questionable luxury of a sleeping car, but remained up all night in a second-class compartment, and amidst the hum of the train he beheld the behaviour of his fellow-travellers. At about 12 o'clock he grew tired of watching the suspicious movements of certain individuals, and dozed off, or at least pretended to do so. Half opening an eye shortly afterwards, he noticed one passenger leaning solicitously over another, the latter being in the arms of Morpheus. The busy individual put his head out of the window, covered his operations with the cape of his overcoat, and went to work. After fumbling awhile in the pockets of the sleeper, he noticed that the Englishman was eyeing him steadily, and tried to gaze him out of countenance, but failing in this he guiltily withdrew to his seat. Just then another passenger entered the car from another compartment, went up to the man who had resumed his seat, opened the latter's hand-bag in a familiar manner, felt in it for something, then closed it, after which he went back to the car whence he had first emerged. The Englishman had meanwhile remained silent.

In a few minutes the sleeping passenger awoke, rubbed his eyes, and started for an adjoining compartment. As he was passing the Englishman the latter nudged him and politely inquired if he had missed anything from his pockets. The man, with a look of astonishment, replied that he had not, but upon feeling for his watch he exclaimed that it was gone. He then ran out to call the guard. Both came in presently, and, upon searching, found the watch on the seat down behind the pillow upon which the man had been sleeping. It appears that as soon as the thief noticed that the Englishman was eyeing him, he dropped the watch, which he thought might be left behind, so as to avoid the risk of being searched. The Englishman then told the guard what he had seen, and even escorted him into the next car, where he pointed out the accomplice, but the guard apparently regarded the information as too elementary to be made use of, and the two thieves were allowed to proceed to other cars where suspicion was not so rife. "It would have been an easy matter to hand them over to the police at the next station, but presumably it would have been decided to let them go, as the official dignity which goes on the principle, 'Never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you,' is well for the public to be warned that this state of things is constantly going on, and that passengers are expected to be on guard against such dangers."

Japan Chronicle.

OPENING OF SHANGHAI.

LECTURE BY A FORMER HONGKONG RESIDENT.

A meeting of the members of the Royal Asiatic Society, China Branch, was held in the Society's Hall, at Shanghai, on 8th inst., when Mr. C. A. Montalto de Jesus read a paper entitled "The Opening of Shanghai." The meeting was open to the public and the audience filled the large hall.

Mr. T. W. Kinsland, who presided, said that the Society this year had hardly fulfilled its duty to the public, inasmuch as the affairs of Shanghai had been found necessary to postpone the Spring and early Summer meetings. Mr. Montalto de Jesus, who had prepared the paper for the evening, was well known to most of those present for his interesting "History of Macao." The Chairman hoped that before long the annual meeting of the Society would be held and that they would take up the business in the usual way. In the absence of both presidents and of Dr. Ferguson, the secretary, the business had got into arrears and that would be brought up at a later meeting.

Mr. Montalto de Jesus then read a most interesting paper. He opened by giving a full account of the early British efforts to trade at Shanghai, and from this passed on to a description of the hostile reception given to it and its ultimate failure. The lecturer referred to Chinese attractions and its connection with the early history of Shanghai. He described the defences erected at Shanghai by the Chinese with the object of keeping out all barbarians who attempted to land on these shores, the battle of Woosung, fought on June 16, 1842, and the capture and occupation of Shanghai. The lecturer briefly related the negotiations for peace which ended in the treaty of Nanking and then referred to the projected acquisition of Chusan, and how Chusan was at last abandoned, concluded by saying that the present position of Shanghai in the commercial world was the outcome of British moderation and Manchu diplomacy.

The Chairman, in inviting discussion, said that Mr. Lindsay came to Shanghai under the auspices of the East India Company, and that this was one of the few bright spots in the management of the affairs of this Company at Canton. Mr. Lindsay was one of the few agents of the Company who succeeded in acquiring a knowledge of Chinese and if the Company had taken his advice and made use of such men as he, the state of things existing in China might not have been what it was and the Company might not have lost the monopoly they had.

OPIUM PROHIBITION.

A proclamation has been issued by the Ministry of the Interior commanding all opium dealers in Peking with less than one thousand taels capital to forthwith close their shops. These small dealers, numbering over one hundred, have petitioned the Board to reconsider its decision which they submit bears every mark of harshness, as they have as yet not been ascertained what step the Board intends to take in the matter. A Peking message says that H. E. Chang Chih-tung, who has long entertained the idea of having a Government opium monopoly, but has not been able to realize it owing to the difficulty of raising the requisite capital, and to the international considerations it involves, has in view of the approaching International Opium Conference at Shanghai, revived the question. His Excellency is arranging with the War and Navy and the Board of Finance to raise a foreign loan of twenty million taels for the purpose and to instruct the High Commissioner to the Opium Conference to bring forward the question thereat.—*Shanghai Times.*

CROWN AGENTS.

ACTION BY THE LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The *Times of Ceylon* says:—The London Chamber of Commerce has taken up the subject of the Crown Agents with the object of getting a more searching and far-reaching inquiry into the system and its relation to modern conditions than that contemplated by the Secretary of State when he approved of the appointment, for superficial purposes, of the "Crown Agents for the Colonies Committee of Inquiry." This was announced after a few questions had been put in the House of Commons; but, when the scope of the inquiry was announced, there was, amongst those who were keen on the larger subject, indignation at the travesty. We admire the spirit which actuates important bodies in England when they take cognizance of such a question, because of their unselfishness, for, while a reform of the system would admit of larger emoluments for competing firms in the Colonies themselves would have equal opportunity of competing with home firms in tendering for public works and Government supplies. The London Chamber addressed the Secretary of State, and then circulated its communication to other prominent Chambers of Commerce, some of which, including Liverpool, have expressed approval of the step taken.

That the Committee of Inquiry should have power to include within its reference, or to otherwise recommend in its report to Parliament, that further evidence should be obtained in relation to the present system by which the Colonies are subject to the control of the Crown Agents in respect of public improvements, tenders for supplies, and uncontrolled expenditures. These questions affect the manufacturing interests in relation to open tendering; the interests of contractors for public works in relation to Government and tender light railways; and the trading interests in respect of the cost of public works on loan or capital account, which tend to increased duties and tariffs, and consequently adversely affect the British commercial relations with the colonies. Questions also affecting coal supply, machinery, and shipping and landing charges, as well as rates for cargoes of inward traffic and preferential contracts call for early consideration, and, having regard to the fact that the present investigation of the Committee to the internal organization of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, it is believed that there is good and substantial reason for the enlargement of the scope of the inquiry in the directions indicated may be instituted at the same time as the recommendations of the present committee are given effect to.

Such powerful aid is the best thing which has come our way towards emancipation from an obsolete institution; and possibly, notwithstanding diverse interests, our own Chamber of Commerce will support the London Chamber of Commerce. If the Ceylon Association, in London, also comes forward from this side to actively co-operate, much a universal representation might be obtained as would make the Secretary of State realize the intensity of feeling which exists on the point.

THE DALAI LAMA.

ARRIVAL IN PEKING.

Peking, September 28.

The long delayed arrival of the Dalai Lama took place to-day. His train was expected at the Belgian station shortly after 1.30 p.m., and a good three-quarters of an hour before that time, a large crowd of Chinese had collected in the open space between the station-yard and the Tien Men. They stood in a closely packed semi-circle, held together, like a large blue bundle, by a yellow cord of khaki-clad police. Most Europeans took up positions on the walls, and nearly all were armed with cameras. It was a brilliantly fine morning, with a cloudless sky, and a sun that turned the roofs of the Imperial Palace to pale gold, and drew a faint shimmer of heat from the hills. On the platform, two orange-coloured standards of the Luchuan waved above either end of a line of piled arms, and, outside the station yard, a guard of honour stood at attention to attention every now and then to salute officials, driven past in closed carriages. Inside the compound a row of shaggy poles, with heavy Chinese saddles, and trappings of scarlet, yellow, and red were held in readiness in front of a crowd of blue-hooded Peking carts.

As the half hour approached, the order was given, to untie arms, and shortly afterwards the train steamed into the station. There rolled out of it, wave upon wave a sea of human beings as barbaric, yet picturesque, as any I have seen outside Drury Lane Theatre at Christmas time. In describing it, I did not strain accuracy, without fearing any exaggeration. For, at first, the station seemed a tangled skein with threads of every conceivable colour, crossed and intertwining—as though some colour-blind showman were playing a gigantic and complicated game of "cat's cradle." Then gradually, the medley disengaged, thinned, and lengthened into processional columns, headed by mounted standard-bearers wearing scarlet hats, shaped like large tulips. Behind them, two drummers, beating in strict, slow time, with elaborate flourish of black sticks, on drums either side of their saddles. Next came a body of men whose dark eyes and swarthy faces looked darker still under wide, brass helmets, flat and bushy. They wore flowing capes of red, yellow and purple, and rode unkempt, sturdy, little ponies with long manes and tails. A troop of mounted infantry with drawn swords, mottled drilled, preceded four mounted buglers heralding the approaching of the great, yellow chair, in which the Lama sat, cushioned, in view, borne by some twenty carriers, eight of whom actually supported the chair, though the remainder made a brave show of straining, six each side, beneath a couple of ropes resting lightly on their shoulders. Behind the chair was carried what I can only call an enormous yellow sunshade since it was too small to be termed a canopy, yet too splendid, surely, to be dubbed umbrella. But, *ben eum-tsu*, it was very magnificent indeed, not stiff, nor plain, nor ordinary, but rich, long-sleeved and majestically waving. A smaller one bore a company of men, not usually in uniform, yet gorgeously appointed, and glittering like the dress of a baronet. The rear of the procession was brought up by thirty or forty priests, swathed from shoulder to ankle in thick, chocolate-coloured blankets, with close-cropped heads and clean-shaven copper-brown faces. They looked like a group of monks brought back to life from the pages of the Canterbury Tales, and gave a touch of medievalism in harmony with the towering gray walls through which the procession swept, whilst, just at the tight moment, to add a touch of romance, loosely-clad, clattering horsemen galloped along in flank.

The route from the Tien Men to the Anding Men is, practically, straight, and I followed the procession, through the city, out on to the plain. The road was lined on either side by a crowd, in places, five or six rows deep and as I was on foot, I was caught, here and there, in a whirlpool of struggling, perspiring Chinese. But the scene on the plain repaid perseverance. The procession at some point or other, had been met by fresh contingents, by another body of priests, for instance, who marched in front, wearing those extraordinary Capucine-looking helmets, made, I should hazard, of cardboard and ornamented with tufts of wool, which you may see any day, during service, in Lama Temple. The country, between the city wall and the yellow Temple, is used as a golf course, and is wide, treeless, and billowy, like an English down. Picture this extraordinary procession winding slowly across it, drums beating, bugles blowing, with the sun in a blue sky shining upon vivid colours and glittering swords. It is a sight worth seeing, but one gave a gasp of delight as one neared the Temple. There, in front of its entrance, stood long-robed priests, facing one another in yellow robes like giant, d-dodds against a background of green trees, giving suddenly to view by opening doors, for just as the head of the column began to cross the arched, white-stone bridge opposite them, the massive iron gates swung back and showed the Temple grounds. They waited thus, these priests, the breeze fluttering their gowns while the procession of scarlet and blue and yellow that matched their own, fled up between them, and as the end of it swept forward into the circle of green, they closed, and moved together into the circle of green. Then the big gray gates swung to again.

The Lama's long journey was ended and the crowd standing fast for a few moments, broke up and returned home.

A PERSONAL INTERVIEW.

A correspondent who has lately arrived in Shanghai from travelling in Shanai has given us the following interesting details of a private interview, which he was privileged to have with the Dalai Lama, while the latter was yet staying at the Wutaishan. Of the enormous retinue of lamas and Tibetan guards with which the Dalai Lama was yet surrounded—a retinue, says our correspondent, for the support of which the Chinese Government is reported to have allowed the Buddhist Pontiff Tsai, 100,000 months—quite writers have given descriptions already. But it is worth noting that only Tibetans (but an occasional privileged visitor) were admitted to the interior of the principal lamasery on the P'usang which was the Dalai Lama's residence. The Chinese guard of honour appointed by Peking was kept strictly outside the lamasery and it was noticeable that the Chinese soldiers and their officers were the object of great dislike to the Tibetans and of constant gratuitous insults.

On the introduction of his visitor the Dalai Lama was discovered seated a low stool in the middle of a large hall. The Chief Pontiff is of slight, somewhat slender, build, lighter in colour than the eastern Tibetans who are in general deeply bronzed. His face, which was curiously expressionless even when he was deep in conversation, is slightly marked with small-pox. His age has been incorrectly reported as about twenty. In reality the Dalai Lama was born in the year in which the Emperor Kuang Hsi came to the throne, which would make him about thirty-four years old allowing for the difference of Chinese reckoning. He was dressed in a yellow silk robe trimmed with deep blue cuffs.

The great mind did not, of course, rise from his seat, and throughout the interview, which was conducted through an interpreter in Chinese and Tibetan, for the Dalai Lama is ignorant of the

former language, the visitor remained standing. But the Dalai Lama was altogether gracious. The interview began with the orthodox Tibetan salutation: the visitor carries in his hand a *ka-tung*, or long scarf, which as he stands before the Pontiff he allows to unroll. Then the scarf is taken up by an attendant and given to the Pontiff, who at the close of the interview, gave in exchange a scarf of his own. This was a special mark of favour. The scarf was taken across the visitor's shoulder and when he left the presence it was impressed upon him that he must on no account remove his decoration till he was far from the lamasery.

The Dalai Lama spoke of the English people. He asked for news from the outside world and expressed gratification at the receipt of a complimentary message. Also, and the point is worth noting, he showed considerable and spontaneous friendliness in speaking of Great Britain and of her relations with Tibet. The interview lasted a quarter of an hour. Then the visitor departed, through long lines of guards and spectators and followed by an escort bearing the presents received from the Dalai Lama. He could not help noticing that he was treated with marked respect throughout the district. It is not everybody that is admitted to converse with Huolo, the Living Buddha.

According to our correspondent (and a similar view has been suggested in these columns) the reports of the Dalai Lama's lengthy delay to go to Peking are probably imaginary. Apart from the fact that he could not have disobeyed an order from the suzerain who, whatever the Dalai Lama may be in Tibet, is a vastly greater person than he is in China, the Chinese Government might easily have fetched him up to Peking, had it wished to do so, by the simple expedient of cutting off supplies. Is it not a more likely suggestion that the Government, which is known to be most anxious to reorganize Tibet on Chinese lines, preferred to postpone its discussion with the Dalai Lama until its plans could be presented to him in a more developed condition? At least this view would help to explain, among other things, the animosity shown by Tibetans towards the Chinese guard of honour at Wutaishan.—*N. C. D. News.*

SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS.

JAPANESE NOBLES TO TOUR CHINA.

The *Japan Chronicle*, says:—A distinguished party is shortly to visit China and Japan. It will consist of Marquis Nabeshima, President of the Toyo Dobun Kai (East Asiatic Common Literature Society), with Marchioness Nabeshima, Viscount Kiyomasa, Vice-President of the same Society, Marquis Hozokawa, President of the Tokyo Dobun School, and Marquis Ogasawara and Kashiwara, members of the Diet. The party will leave Tokyo about the middle of this month, proceeding first to Tairen, and thence to Mukden, Tientsin, and Peking. After spending about ten days in the Chinese capital, they will travel to Paoing, Wuchang, Hangchow, and Shanghai. The object of the tour being to foster friendship between Japan and China, calls will be made on high officials and leading private individuals at the places visited, who will be invited to join the Society. During the party's stay in Peking, Marchioness Nabeshima will be presented to the Empress Dowager of China, and on the occasion of the audience the Marchioness will wear Japanese dress, which is said to be unprecedented in such a case.

RAUB AUSTRALIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

ITS IMPROVED POSITION.

It is likely, writes a correspondent in the *Strait Times*, that there are only a few holders in this Company who carefully studied the last annual report of the Directors, the balance sheet and profit and loss account and made themselves cognisant with the present position of this Company. The reason for this supposition is that, even making allowances for the general business depression now existing, prices of the shares would not have touched the present low figure, had the majority of shareholders been an fair with the progress made by the Company. The documents referred to, show that the position of Raub Mines is gradually improving, and is at the present time, probably, far better than it has ever been before. Looking back at the balance sheet for the year ending March, 1907, we find that there was a debit on the profit and loss account of £15,400. This was reduced to £11,550 by March 31, 1907, and to £2,701 at the end of last March.

This means that the mines made a profit of £4,050 in 1906-1907 and of £2,150, or more than double made in 1907-1908. By this time the debit balance of £2,701 should already have been paid off, so that at the end of this financial year a fairly large credit balance is reasonably expected. On looking further into the profit and loss account, we find that the Debentures have reduced from £7,055 in 1907 to £6,155 in 1908; sundry debtors, for a similar period, from £1,200 to £50, and that sundry creditors only appear with £3,300 in 1908 as against £5,600 in 1907. Besides, the Company's only debt is one of £5,747—due to the F.M.S. Government, the repayment of which is more or less certain to be spread over a number of years, so that this should not greatly affect any of the results.

In 1907, £7,580 was written off for depreciation of machinery, etc., and in 1908 £6,870. The average costs of Directors' and Auditors' fees, salaries, charges Brisbane, wages and expenses at Raub and costs of Singapore office per one ounce gold works out at £2,148.74 for the year 1906/1907 and at £2,123.3d. for 1907/1908. For the year ending March 31, 1907, 70,202 tons of ore were crushed, giving 10,600 ozs. gold, and for the year that expired on March 31, last, these figures were 72,587 tons and 13,444 ozs. gold, or in other words an increase of 1,915 ozs. of gold. The average per ton increased from 0.152 ozs. in 1907 to 0.186 ozs. in 1908. The returns for the 4 months working from April to August, 1907, amounted to 4,333 ozs. or 67½ per month and for the same period in this year to 5,181 ozs. or 129½ ozs. per month.

In brief, as debts and expenses have and are being reduced, and revenue and average gold output is increasing, it appears that the position of the Company is better now than it has been for many years past. This fact, however, does not seem to be grasped by a large number of shareholders, for it is possible now to purchase the shares at about half the price ruling about a year ago.

FOREIGNERS IN THE INTERIOR.

It will be recalled that some time ago the Wai-wu-pu concluded a treaty with the Representatives of the Treaty Powers, for bidding foreign merchants to open companies and "hongs" outside the limits of treaty ports and Settlements. It is now reported that Prince Ching and their

DASTARDLY AFFAIR AT CAUSEWAY BAY.

SHOPKEEPER AND DISTRICT WATCHMAN ATTACKED BY HIGHWAYMEN.

Causeway Bay, was the scene of a most audacious highway robbery last night. A shopkeeper named Chan Kai, carrying on business at 11, Jardine's Bazaar, was "held up" by a band of robbers. His money, whilst a district watchman, who went to his assistance, was also roughly handled by the thugs, who managed to effect an escape. One of the highwaymen can be recognised, and it is to be hoped that by his arrest the remainder will be brought to justice.

The robbery was a very cleverly planned affair. The robbers took the advantage afforded them by the darkness of the night, due to the absence of any street lamps, to carry out their project. They secreted themselves outside Kennedy Stables to waylay their victim.

At about eight o'clock last night, Chan Kai left his shop to visit friends residing on Shau-ki Road. As he was passing Kennedy Stables he noticed five men, who had probably been hiding behind the large rock near the sea-wall, appear on the road, due to the absence of any street lamps, to carry out their project. They secreted themselves outside Kennedy Stables to waylay their victim.

When he reached the Tin Hau Temple, he was suddenly seized by the gang and thrown violently to the ground. The man struggled fiercely with his assailants, but he was soon overpowered. In a few seconds he was relieved of \$200—all the money he had in his pocket.

The highwaymen were then proceeding to direct the fleeing victim. District Watchman 32, hearing the shopkeeper's cries, rushed to the scene, and taking the situation in a glance, proceeded to the assistance of the shopkeeper, who was being held down on the street. Before he could do anything, however, he was seized by the throat by one man, grabbed round the waist by another, and in the struggle that came about, the trio rolled to the ground. The D.W. got to his feet first, and drew his truncheon, which he was not quick enough to start and use, for by the time he got up he was jumped upon again and pushed down. When he regained his footing this time the scoundrels had disappeared.

In company with the shopkeeper he returned to No. 2 Police Station and reported the matter, giving a description of the one man they recognised among the lot. It is believed that the robbers were brigands, whose brains were muddled in the refuge.

THE AMERICAN FLEET.

DEPARTURE FROM MANILA.

The Battleship Fleet left Manila bay yesterday morning before most of the good people of the city were up and about, reports the *Call*. The fleet consisted of 12th inst. At least most of the Americans. The big fleet pulled up its divers anchors and departed at the witching hour of six o'clock and the black was well out in the China Sea, steering north towards the coast of Formosa. The *Panther*, *Culgoa*, *Relief* and *Glacier* have been left behind, the *Yankton* being the only vessel of the fleet auxiliaries that accompanied the big ships to Japan. The *Panther* will leave here in a day or two for Hongkong and will be away for a short time. The *Glacier* will be sent to Olongapo to dock and will then be sent to San Francisco. The *Yankton*, engaged in taking stores from the *Glacier* when the complete cargo is received the *Culgoa* will leave for Amoy. The date of departure is variously set at some time between the 23rd and 26th.

There were said farewell, no parting words. The fleet simply pulled up anchor and departed. Admiral Sperry addressed a request to Governor-General Smith to have all vessel notices of the time of the return of the fleet November 1st—that the Batang range could be cleared and target practice could begin at once. The Governor-General will take the necessary steps. Despite the fact that the hour of departure was two hours earlier than that announced Friday evening, there were no struggles. Every member of the crews was aboard Friday night.

SERVICES OF ORISHA AS WAITRESSES TO BE DISPENSSED WITH.

Christian Japanese in Tokyo and Yokohama have been endeavouring to persuade the Tokyo municipal authorities and business associations to dispense with geisha and waitresses at the receptions to be given to the U.S. Pacific squadron. A memorial has been addressed to the Government on the same question signed by Mr. Ebara, Chairman of the Tokyo Young Men's Christian Association; Mr. Hachido, Chairman of the Corresponding Association at Yokohama; Mr. Ozaki, Chairman of the Japan Christian Gospel Association; Mr. Ando, Chairman of the Japan Temperance Society; Mrs. Yajima, Chairman of the Christian Ladies' Social Reform Society; and Mr. Iwaka, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association's Union, of Japan.

A Tokyo dispatch states that in compliance with the suggestion of Japanese residents in America, the Tokyo municipal authorities have decided not to employ the services of geisha waitresses at the reception of the U.S. squadron. Geisha dances will, however, be given.

THE PACIFIC FREIGHT QUESTION.

The *Osaka Mainichi* reports that a conference of agents of steamship companies engaged in the Pacific trade held on the 6th inst. at Yokohama failed to come to any agreement. It was eventually decided that each company should act on its own discretion, and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has arranged to make its own independent tariff. Its intention is to use through bills of lading at the present rates on certain goods, including steam and rail transit, and to take upon its own shoulders the increase in the American rail rate. This applies to rail, silk and other valuable goods, the steamer rate on which will be reduced by about 25 gold cents per 100 lbs. On other goods the increased rail rate will be partly counterbalanced by reductions in the steamer transport. For example, the rate on tea is to be reduced by about 16 gold cents, on mulling by 15 cents, on straw braid by 30 cents. The rate on porcelain exported from Nagoya will be reduced to 60 cents, a reduction being also made in the freight on most of the other cargo. The average rate charged by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, says a Tokyo dispatch to the *Mainichi*, is about 64 cents per 100 lbs. against the average rate of 73 cents recently published by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company. The new average rate of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is a reduction of about 17 per cent from the present tariff. This coupled with the increased railway tariff, will bring the average total increase on the through rates to no higher than 10 per cent. The report that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha had adopted a conference rate with the American steamship companies in the North is incorrect. From the first the Nippon Yusen Kaisha had decided to fix the rate in Japan.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

THE BLINDHORN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH".
DEAR SIR,—After the subscription for the Blindhorn, has been closed, it is my heartfelt desire to express my thanks, through the columns of your valuable paper to all the friends of our home, who have so kindly remembered the blind in their present need.

At the same time I beg to acknowledge with thanks the generous gift of \$1000 (one thousand dollars) handed to me by the Hon. Registrar General E. A. Irving on behalf of the committee appointed to consider the distribution of relief for the losses caused by the recent typhoon. As all the members of that committee except Mr. Irving are Chinese, I do feel that this shows a kind appreciation on the part of the Chinese community of the work done by our home.

Thanking you very much for allowing me so much space in your paper, I am, etc.,
AGATHE VON SEELHORST.
Hildesheim Mission, Hildesheim,
12, Bonham Road,
Hongkong, 12th October, 1908.

MONEY LOAN ASSOCIATION AGAIN.

NAME OF DEFENDANT QUESTIONED.

Another money-loan association case was heard in the Supreme Court last Monday. The *Fu Chan* restaurant, of 51, Jardine's Bazaar, sued Chan Wing Wo, alias Kwai Wing Wo, an accountant, of 1, Centre Street, to recover the sum due on account of a money-loan association.

Mr. P. Sydenham Dixon, of Mr. R. A. Henderson, appeared for the plaintiff, Mr. D. W. Stevenson, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, represented the defendant.

It was stated for the prosecution that the plaintiff had made seven calls of \$10 each on the defendant as a member of the money-loan association. The money was not paid; in fact the defendant denied owing the debt.

The defendant denied owing anything to the plaintiff, alleging at the same time that he was never the head of the association, but simply a member and furthermore he denied that the name on the writ was his.

The plaintiff was then called and cross-examined.
Mr. Stevenson—Why did you not use the defendant's proper name?
Plaintiff—His name is Chan Wing Wo. But it is not a name he did not want to disclose?—Yes.

Then why did you use it?—Because he used that name in the association book.
What is his name as known to you?—Ah Kwai.

What was his surname?—I forget it.
Have you ever borrowed money from this association?—No.

As a matter of fact you have applied for the loan of money?—I have not.
How many men have applied for money?—I don't know. I was never there at a meeting.
Oh whom did you inquire as to how much you had to pay for your subscription?—Defendant.

Did he tell you?—Yes, he did, but I don't remember.
I put it to you that it is utterly untrue that you were told by the defendant what interest you had to pay for this association?—He did not tell me.

The case was adjourned.

SALE OF WORK.

AT THE ITALIAN CONVENT.

The sale of work at the Italian Convent, which was opened yesterday, will be continued this afternoon and to-morrow. His Excellency the Governor visited the sale and patronized the stalls much to the delight of the stallholders.

The attendance on the opening day was disappointingly small, and in consequence the proceeds have fallen much below the average of previous years' sales. It cannot surely be put down to the apathy of a community noted for its generosity as the Hongkong public is well-known to be that the sale now proceeding at the Italian Convent is so meagrely supported. The fact need only be brought to the attention of the benevolent ladies and gentlemen in the Colony to ensure for the orphan, for whose benefit the sale is held, the support they so richly deserve.

A visit to the Convent bazaar will convince anyone that the hundred and one articles offered are fully worth their price. There are numerous frocks suitable for children of every age and both for autumn and winter wear. They range in price from \$5 to \$12. Besides articles of dress too numerous to mention in detail there is a large variety of toys for children which should delight the hearts of the youngsters. Every one of the articles on sale is moderately priced.

The Rev. Mother invites a visit to the bazaar by all who are interested in the work of the Convent and who feel inclined to assist the large number of orphans under the Convent's charge.

JAPAN.

THE PORT ARTHUR-CHEFOO CABLE.

The Chiao-Japanese Convention with regard to the Port Arthur to Chefoo cable and the South Manchuria overland telegraph line was signed in Tokyo to-day.

A CABINET COUNCIL.

An extraordinary Cabinet Council was held this morning. Subsequently to this Marquis Katsura, the Premier, was received in audience by His Majesty, the Emperor.

H.E. TANG SHAO-YI.
Count Komura, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Baron Goto, President of the South Manchuria Railway, Governor-General Oshima and the Chinese Special Commissioner to study constitutional questions, Li Chia-chu, will entertain H.E. Tang Shao-yi to dinner on the 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th inst., respectively.

AMERICAN VISITORS.
Thirty-eight representatives from the American Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Coast, sixteen of whom are accompanied by their wives, arrived at Yokohama this morning on board the *T. K. S. Togo Maru*. The five principal Japanese Chambers of Commerce presented an address of welcome at the pier.

The arrival of these commercial visitors and of the American Exhibition Commissioners, preceding the arrival of the American Battleship fleet, is regarded as typifying an advance, messenger of peace.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

INTENDED EXPANSION.

EXPERTS' VISIT TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Rangoon, September 11.

The *Rangoon Gazette* publishes a report of an interesting interview with two Japanese economic experts who were sent to Europe, America, Australasia and India to examine the various systems and conditions of agricultural practice and to ascertain whether scope exists for expansion of trade between Japan and foreign countries. It is not long ago that Professor S. Kikkawa, of the Imperial College of Agriculture, Tokyo, paid Burma a visit, in the course of his lengthy tour through India to study agricultural conditions. His Burma tour was with the object of collecting specimens of all the local varieties of paddy and sowing rice with a view to studying the several species and ascertaining what would be best suited for introducing to Japan if possible, as well as for importation into that country. The professor, when in Burma, visited Mandalay and seemed satisfied with what he saw. The two representatives now sent to India and Burma are Messrs. Yashida and Ando. The former is the Trade Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce and the latter is an expert in the Imperial Experimental Station at Nishikigawa near Tokyo. Messrs. Yashida and Ando left Yokohama on an extended tour on the 10th inst. and the first place visited was Colombo. After a couple of days' stay in that city they proceeded to Tutu and thence to Madras where they remained only a day.

From Madras they proceeded to Bombay where they inspected several mills and experimented with being carried on at the agricultural farms, and conducted extensive inquiries into local conditions, of agricultural practice and trade.

Mr. Yashida next visited Ahmedabad, Agra, Delhi and Calcutta where he was joined by Mr. Ando who had proceeded from Bombay to visit Patna, Darjeeling and the Imperial Agricultural Institute at Pusa.

In Calcutta, both gentlemen were detained for 20 days on account of illness in the delay of their Burma tour somewhat. They arrived in Rangoon on the 7th inst. and left for Singapore. They go on to Bangkok, where they intend spending a week to inspect the tin mines at Puket and other centres. From Bangkok they will visit Saigon, where they make a short stay before sailing for Hongkong, and thence for Kobe and Yokohama, which port they reach early in November, in time to permit Mr. Yashida being present at Tokyo for the Imperial Diet, which opens towards the end of that month.

EULOGY OF BOMBAY, CALCUTTA AND RANGOON.

Asked as to their impressions of the several places visited and of the prospects for the expansion of trade with Japan both gentlemen spoke in eulogistic terms of Bombay, Calcutta and Rangoon. They do not consider of much commercial importance to Japan. They said that of all the principal cities visited, Rangoon appears to hold forth the greatest inducements for trade and commerce, Bombay and Calcutta coming next in order. From what they had been able to gather during their short stay in Rangoon, that port has a great future before it, notwithstanding the great drawback to its commercial prosperity from the bad state of the Rangoon river, and remarked that they could not see at all surprised if in another decade Rangoon, with its large resources of timber and agricultural and mineral wealth behind it, be one of the largest and most important ports in India or Burma. Owing to their detention in Calcutta through illness, their stay in Burma had to be curtailed to ten days, instead of the originally proposed three weeks' stay and Mr. Ando was, therefore, unable to pay a visit to Mandalay, where he intended making an extensive survey of the country, and its agricultural, experimental, farm. He was surprised, however, that Burma, with all her wealth of paddy, cotton, etc., has only two small agricultural institutions, one at Mandalay and the other at Hmawbi and only some three or four agricultural experts. He remarked that it was strange that the Indian Government has only now awakened to its responsibilities in aiding and extending the assimilation of agricultural knowledge, but said that if the thing being done at present could be expected in years to come, there is a system of agricultural practice was sure of immense improvement in the near future.

The principal object of India and Burma, is to ascertain first of all whether Japan can safely depend on regular supplies of paddy and white rice from India and Burma in case of crop failure or famine or other adverse agricultural conditions in Japan; and, secondly, to study the system of agricultural practice, examine the yield of the different crops, and see whether any avenue exists for larger import and export trade.

While in Rangoon Messrs. Yashida and Ando visited the Imperial Government officials, chief among these being Mr. H. M. S. Mathews, the Commissioner of Settlement of Land Records, and several large mercantile firms dealing in paddy and white rice, cotton and other richly-desired goods.

Through the courtesy of Messrs. Bullock Brothers and Co., their new rice mills in Lower Pansongmye were visited. Messrs. Yashida and Ando inspected the various details of the mills and examined and obtained several specimens of the rice milled. The mills of Messrs. Mooda Daboo, Sons and Co., St. Dawbung and Kanaungto were also visited and both Messrs. Yashida and Ando expressed themselves very well pleased with the conditions noticed. A curious fact elicited was that the rice milled as we understand it, is not to be found in Japan. The necessity for these mills has not yet arisen, as paddy, as a commercial product does not exist. Each farmer is his own miller, husking his paddy before sale. Japan is chiefly concerned with Burma in the trade in rice, raw cotton and mineral oils, and though both are rich on a very extensive scale, and cotton on a lesser scale, are produced in Japan, the people are dependent on Burma for supplies of these articles of commerce. Though the trade between Burma and Japan was so extensive and the number and tonnage of Japanese vessels calling at Rangoon was increasing every year, it was strange that Japan had no consular representative anywhere in Burma to look after her interests. This unsatisfactory state of affairs is engaging the attention of the Government on the representations of the trading community of Japan, and by the near future we might hope to see a Consul for Japan at Rangoon.

People owing poles at Kowloon must understand that the streets were not made to accommodate them. At about one o'clock on the morning of the 10th inst., while Policeman Pincott was on duty along Des Voeux Road, he came across two poles, standing on the road. The poles were taken to the Water Police Station, and were later clamped by their owners—H. Lee, of Lochiel Terrace, and L. Ping, 12, Temple Street, Wanchai.

These two gentlemen were summoned in the Police Court, to-day, and each had to pay a fine of \$5.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

THE RECENT SQUALL.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 8th October.

Delayed in transmission.
Further reports of destruction by the violent squall on the 6th inst. at 12.30 p.m. has reached here from Hok Shan district. On that day it happened that there was a theatrical performance in the Shu Ping market place by the Shu Ping troupe, and there was a large attendance. The theatrical match was ended on a festive bank; it was blown down by the squall with the result that over thirty of the spectators were crushed to death by the falling of the match and some seventy were wounded; besides a number of them were drowned. The complete list of casualties has not yet been made.

VILLAGE ROBBERY.

It is only a short time since that it was reported that the robber chief Luk Lan Ching had made a demand for a sum of \$5,000 from the silk factories in the Shu Ping district. As the money demanded was not forthcoming, this robber together with about two hundred of his followers, on the 5th inst., attacked a wealthy man named Su Ho Wai, who was a large dealer in silk cocoons in the locality. Su lived in the village called Ngong Ma close to a river and his house was very strongly built, and he kept a number of slaves for his own protection. The robbers proceeded to the village by a number of sampans in tow of a steam launch. The village soldiers and Su's guards offered vigorous resistance against the robbers, when they landed, but owing to the overwhelming number of the latter, the soldiers were obliged to surrender. The robbers attacked Su's house and removed all the silk he had stored to the value of several tens of thousands of dollars. Moreover, the robbers snatched Su himself and two of his sons. During the engagement a large number of the soldiers and four villagers were killed. One of the robbers was also killed. The robbers then took possession of the village and ransacked Su's house for fully five hours from 9 p.m. till two in the following morning.

CHEUNG PAT-SZE.

It is rumored, in mandarin circles here, that H.E. Cheung Pat Sze will shortly be recalled to the North.

CONSULAR VISIT.

H.E. Viceroy Chang Jen Chun received the Japanese Consul at Canton this morning at 10 a.m.

NAVAL REORGANIZATION.

H.E. the Viceroy has sent a memorial to the Council of State to be forwarded to the Throne, in which His Excellency urged the reorganization of a Chinese Navy at an early date.

HARBOR FATALITY.

Yesterday on the arrival of a junk—the *Man On*—at Canton a member of her crew was crushed to death while attempting to make fast a rope to a pole in the jetty, as the current was very strong.

GAMBLING RAID.

On information received the official in charge of No. 11 Police Station in the Western suburb, on the 6th inst., proceeded with a body of police to raid a house in Mr. Fung Hing Street—in which some thirty women were indulging in a game of fan-tan, some of whom were of respectable families. The keepers, four men in all, of the gambling den were arrested and were brought to the police station together with the gambling apparatus to be dealt with. The women were afterwards discharged with a caution with the exception of a few who had acted as abettors. The high authorities have petitioned for authority to seal up the house.

WEN TUNG-YAO.

H.E. Wen Tung Yao, the newly-appointed Imperial Assistant Resident Minister at Lhasa, Tibet, will start from Canton on the 11th inst. for Hongkong en route for his new sphere of activity. It is ascertained that H.E. Wen will proceed to Tibet by way of Singapore, Rangoon, and Calcutta.

THE SQUALL.

Further damages by the disastrous squall of the 6th inst. are now reported in Wong Ting Shu, Nambol district, a few hours' distance from Canton. The squall in question struck Canton at 12.30 p.m. on that day while it was experienced there at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. It being in the afternoon a large number of houses suffered damage; some had their roofs swept away, and parts of walls collapsed or had some minor damage inflicted. Two persons were killed and about fifty others were more or less injured.

RAILWAY FARES.

Since the rate of fares on railway passengers on the Canton-Samohol line was raised, numerous complaints have been lodged with the Railway Company against the increase, and the figures of daily passengers have subsequently decreased. A meeting will be held to-day at the Canton-Hankow Railway Company by the board of directors to discuss the complaints received with a view of resuming the old rate.

BUREAU OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Taotai Ng Kwong Lin has been appointed by the Viceroy foreign deputy in the Bureau of Foreign Affairs.

FATAL ACCIDENT.

On the 6th inst., a grand procession took place at Kowloon in Nambol district pursuant to certain religious observances. There was a bridge—a bamboo structure—erected temporarily for the occasion. Owing to the number of people who overcrowded the bridge, it was not able to stand the excessive weight, and consequently it collapsed, with the result that a number of lives were lost.

RED CROSS SOCIETY.

In recent years, in the city of Canton, the number of Chinese doctors practicing Western medicine has been considerably increased and through the good offices of these medical men a Chinese Red Cross Society has been organized here with the *T. K. S. Togo Maru* as its office. The opening ceremony of this Society will take place formally on the 12th inst.

THE RECENT SQUALL.

With reference to the destruction to house property in the O. Ton village by the heavy squall on the 6th inst., the Canton Central Relief Committee yesterday made a tour of inspection to the scene and distributed among the sufferers there money to the amount of \$171 according to the extent of damages sustained.

RAILWAY FARES.

At a meeting held yesterday of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company a large number of the directors were present to report to the old rate of fares for railway passengers on the Canton-Hankow line, but the Company of the Time, however, has to be consulted on the subject, before the decision can be made definite.

CURRENCY.

Instructions have been received from Peking by the Canton Mint to coin currency pieces of

tao one and half respectively, and smaller coins of one-tenth values.

ARMED ROBBERY.

On the 6th day of this moon, the 3rd inst., a daring armed robbery was committed in Kowloon village, Nambol district, where four children were kidnapped. The whereabouts of these children have not been known as yet.

STEAM LAUNCH V. RAILWAY.

No sooner had the Canton-Fatshan line been opened for traffic, than the passenger launches plying between Canton and Fatshan discontinued their running. Now as the rate of fares on railway passengers has been increased—65 cents for 1st class, 35 cents for 2nd class and 20 cents for 3rd class—the people consider it too heavy a charge to travel by train for a distance of only fifty li and consequently the daily volume of railway passengers on the Canton-Fatshan line has been decreasing a little since the beginning of this moon, when the increase of fares came into effect. Availing of this opportunity, a steam launch company to-day put two steam launches on the Canton-Fatshan run to convey passengers from Canton to Fatshan five times a day for the moderate charge of only ten cents on each passenger.

THE OPIUM CAMPAIGN.

It has been reported that licenses to be issued to opium smokers in Canton will, from the 1st day of the 10th moon, assume the form of a wooden board. The Police authorities have ordered from one shop alone 20,000 wooden boards for this purpose each measuring 8 by 7 inches. In the license will be inscribed the name and address of the holder and the amount of opium he daily consumes together with the anti-opium regulations. When proceeding to buy opium, a smoker must hold openly in his hand the necessary license all the way, otherwise he will be fined \$5 for the first time that the license board is found wrapped up in a handkerchief or concealed under his garments.

SMUGGLING.

A telegram has been received by the Canton authorities from the Governor of Hsiao province, in which the Hunan Governor calls the attention of the Canton officials to the malpractice of the insurgents in smuggling arms and ammunition in coffins.

THE VICE-ROY'S SYMPATHY.

The late Taotai Yao Shau Shi, who died a few months ago in Kwangsi while holding office as Lung Chow Taotai, was one of H.E. Chang Jen Chun's greatest friends. The remains of the late Taotai Yao have been brought to Canton to be buried here. On Saturday last H.E. Chang personally went to offer respects before the coffin of the deceased, expressing his great sorrow at the loss of his friend, giving way to the signs of emotion. The late Taotai Yao left a mother, a wife and a son of about 20 years old to mourn his loss. H.E. Chang sympathized with them in their sorrow.

RED CROSS SOCIETY.

At the opening ceremony of the newly-formed Chinese Red Cross Society held on the 11th inst. in Kowloon Mong street, there were present a few hundred people including executive magistrate Lau Kah Fook of the Police Department. Speeches were made on the occasion by several prominent gentlemen and were listened to with great interest; they were punctuated by frequent applause. A tea party was afterwards held; the crowd dispersed at 3 p.m.

ROBBERY BY SOLDIERS.

A letter from Kwangsi states that on the 2nd inst. a mutiny occurred in Tai Wong, Kowloon, the same place of the recent mutiny, by the soldiers of a quibb boat. The officer in charge of the guard boat named Li Han Chung and another were shot dead by the soldiers and a sum of \$200 being revenue collected and about to be remitted to an official was removed. The Kwai Ping district magistrate has now offered a reward of \$100 for the capture of each of the mutineers.

ARMS MANUFACTURED IN CANTON.

In accordance with instructions from the Board of War, the Director of the Canton Arsenal has been deputed by the Viceroy to proceed to the Capital with specimens of rifles and cartridges produced by the Canton Arsenal for inspection by the Board.

SIR CHEN TUNG.

Sir Chen Tung Liang Cheng, president of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company, returned to Canton from Shanghai yesterday.

THE JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

A telegram has been received by the Canton Self-Government Society from the Chinese traders in Paris in which the Self-Government Society was informed that a Chinese shop named Yuen Kee in Paris has been discovered to have imported a quantity of Japanese goods from an exporter named Ho Chek Wan in Canton, in Cheung Lan Street. In this message the Self-Government Society was also asked to take steps to deal with the exporter Ho in Canton for a breach of the boycott agreement. A meeting is expected to be convened shortly by the Canton Self-Government Society to deal with the matter.

KIDNAPPED.

The Canton Press Society has received from Hoi Kin district a letter stating that, on the 17th day of last moon, a batch of twenty-one girls, while on their way from the Tai Tin village to the hills to cut firewood, was kidnapped by a gang of robbers. The whereabouts of these girls cannot be ascertained.

THREATENED FLOOD.

Within the last few days the West River has risen considerably; flood is now threatened and the embankments along the river are again in danger. This morning the Central Relief Committee has sent out members with 1000000 bags to proceed up the river on a tour of inspection on board a steam-launch with a view of rendering assistance to the villagers in case of emergency.

TRIADS.

Recently the Triads in the Eastern suburb of Canton have been very active. Meetings are reported to have been repeatedly held in the district, and the neighbouring villages. The villagers were compelled to join the Triad Society, and when they refused to do so they were not allowed to live peacefully within the district.

As the local gentry was unable to stop these Triads, the attention of the Canton officials has been called through the papers to their activity.

THE ANTI-OPIMUM CAMPAIGN.

A few months ago instructions were issued by the Canton Police authorities to the officials of the different districts to call for reports on the number of opium smokers within their respective jurisdictions, but so far only a few of such reports have been received from among the districts. The Police authorities have now again directed the officials of the districts requiring them to submit their reports as called for within a month's time. If any official fails to comply with the instructions, he will be severely punished. When the returns of opium smokers have been received from a district, new licences in the form of a wooden board will be sent there to be issued to smokers in substitution for the existing permits.

HONGKONG CHINESEMAN'S SUCCESS.

A short time ago an examination of matured students from foreign countries was held at the capital and there were present about one hundred and twenty candidates. News has been received here from Peking that Mr. Chan Chun Shu came out first in the examination. Mr. Chan is a Cantonese, being well known in this city as well as in Hongkong. He was a medical student in the Alice Memorial Hospital for a little over a year, and after arriving in Peking Dr. Ho Kai's office for a short time he accompanied H.E. Wu Ting Fang to the United States where he studied agriculture till last year when he returned to China. The friends of Mr. Chan will be glad to hear of his success in passing the examination and heading the list of successful students.

THE NEW BUND.

The construction of the new bund at Canton is about to be completed and it is proposed that rich men be allowed to ply for hire. The Bunding Bureau has issued a notification inviting tenders to run 400 rickshaws on the new road.

SECOND RICE CROP.

It is learnt from the farmers that the second crop of rice in the surrounding districts of Canton has been badly damaged and that they do not expect to reap more than 50 per cent of a normal harvest.

DESTRUCTIVE SQUALLS.

Violent squalls were experienced in the districts of Heung Shan and Shu Hing on the 15th inst. Great destruction is reported to have been wrought within those districts.

THE CHAOTIC CURRENCY.

The notes issued for circulation by the Canton Kwan Yin Chin, Chu of the following denominations, viz., \$1, \$5, and \$10, redeemable according to the standard of the Mexican dollars, have not amounted to over two million dollars. The Canton authorities propose to call in all these notes from circulation as a new series of notes of the values of \$1, \$5, and \$10, respectively, based on the standard of the Mexican dollars, has lately been put into circulation by the Canton Government Bank

No. 100.—In brisk demand and all available spot as well as forward contracts were entered into at an advance of \$1 to \$4 per bale.
Nos. 80 and 60.—Not in request.
The Market closes very firm.
Sales—4,725 bales of No. 100, 5,000 bales of No. 120, 250 bales of No. 100, and 1,375 bales of No. 200, in all about 6,900 bales.
Arrivals.—Per steamers *Kunming* and *Lightning* (from Calcutta), and *Wakanyu Maru*, *Yokohama*, and *Asahi* (from Bombay), of about 11,000 bales.
Unsold Stock.—About 9,000 bales.
Uncleared Stock.—About 1,000 bales.
Exchange.—We quote to-day as follows:
India T. T. at Rs. 133 per cent.
Demand " " 133
London T. T. at Sh. 1/3 3/4=\$
Demand " " 1/3 3/4=\$
Shanghai T. T. at \$1.75=\$100.
Silver " " 23 11/16d. per oz.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write this afternoon:
During the week under review, there has been no material change in our market, and rates for most stocks remain more or less unchanged.
Banks.—A slight improvement in Hongkong and Shanghai Banks has taken place, and there are buyers at \$75. The London quotation is unchanged.
Marine Insurances.—Cautions are quiet and without business to report at \$300. North China have further buyers at \$18.75. Unions are in demand at \$75. There are buyers of Yangtze at \$167.
Fire Insurances.—China Fires can be obtained at \$10, and Hongkong Fires at \$35.
Shipping.—Douglases and China and Manilla are unchanged and without business to report. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats are still in favour at \$28.
Refineries.—China Sugars are somewhat neglected at \$10 and Luzons at \$22. In the North, Perak Sugars are in demand at the slightly improved rate of \$15.95.
Mining.—Rauhs are weaker and obtainable at \$7.
Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Whampoa Docks have been dealt in at \$93, closing with further buyers at the rate. Shanghai Docks have declined to \$12.82, after sales at the rate. Hongkong Wharves are a shade firmer and buyers rule the Northern market at \$12.12.
Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong. Kipels are in request at \$77. Hongkong Lands continue quiet at \$94, while Humphreys Estates have buyers at \$9.—Shanghai Lands—can be sold at \$15.
Cotton Mills.—Ewos have risen to \$15.65 with buyers at the rate. Hongkong Cottons are obtainable at \$104. In other stocks under this heading, we have no business to report.
Miscellaneous.—China Providents have buyers at \$92. Green Island Cements have been booked at \$10. Steam Landries are quiet at \$6. The report of the directors of this company for the year ending 31st May, 1908, just issued to shareholders, shows a credit balance at credit of profit and loss account of \$4,653.85, which the directors recommend should be apportioned as follows: To pay a dividend of 8 1/2% to 40 cents per share, amounting \$3,000. To write off machinery and plant \$5,573.16. To write off buildings \$1,784.19 and to carry forward to new account the balance of \$136.46. Langkate have experienced a slight decline, with sales at \$15.65. Umatahs have likewise weakened to \$15.15, but buyers prevail at the rate.
Exchange.—The Banks selling rate on London is 1/9 on demand. The T/T rate on Shanghai is 73.
Dividends Payable.—Cautions. Dividend of \$14 for the year 1907, payable on the 31st inst. Steam Landries. Dividend of 40 cents—8 per cent. for year ending 31st May, 1908, payable to-morrow.

TODAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling	
London—Bank T.T.	19 3/16
Do. demand	19 1/2
Do. 4 months' sight	19 1/2
France—Bank T.T.	2 1/4
America—Bank T.T.	42 1/2
Germany—Bank T.T.	48 1/2
India T.T.	133
Do. demand	133 1/2
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	75 1/2
Singapore—Bank T.T.	per H.K. \$100
Japan—Bank T.T.	60 1/2
Java—Bank T.T.	106 1/2
Buying	
4 months' sight L/C.	19 9/16
6 months' sight L/C.	19 11/16
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York	43 1/2
do. do.	44 1/2
30 days' sight Sydney & Melbourne	19 11/16
4 months' sight France	2 1/4
6 months' sight	2 1/4
4 months' sight Germany	48 1/2
Bar Silver	23 1/2
Bank of England rate	24 1/2
Sovereign	\$11.24

OPIMUM QUOTATIONS.

To-day's quotations are as follows:	
Malwa New	1,100/1,200
" Old	1,280/1,310
" Older	"
" Oldest	1,370/1,350
Per chest	
Patan New	"
" Old	1,215
Benares New	1,140
" Old	1,130
Pering (Paper)	900/950

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

MR. IJOU, the new Japanese Minister to Peking, has left Japan to take up his post.
DR. H. S. BENNETT is authorized to practice medicine and surgery in the Colony.
MR. E. A. de CARVALHO returned to the Colony from leave of absence and resumed duty as cashier at the Treasury on 9th inst.
THE reconstructed *Sorogon*—now the *Corail*—is ready for sea. She looks epic and spaw in her new coat of paint in Hongkong Bay.
FOR gambling in a passage leading off Battery Park at West Point last Friday, ten men were fined \$10 each at the Police Court, on Saturday.
IF KWAN, a widow, was fined \$4 at the Magistrate's last Saturday for offering fowls for sale in Queen's Road East in a place other than a public market.
HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. E. C. L. Lewis to act as Postmaster General with effect from the 1st instant until further notice.
A GAMBLING house at 7, Wing Sing Street was raided last night by Inspector O'Sullivan, and seventeen coolies were captured, after the usual stampede. They were charged and convicted in the Police Court this morning, each defendant having to pay \$4.

TUNG KWONG, a coolie, was fined \$10 last Wednesday, in the Police Court, for having in his possession arms and ammunition without a permit.

IT is reported from Peking that the Waiwupu and the Russian Minister have come to a "working arrangement" concerning matters in Manchuria.

THE Japanese Emperor has given ¥3,000 to the East Asia Compro Script Association in recognition of its services for the education of Japanese students in China.

A PORT ARTHUR dispatch states that an English capitalist is making investigations with a view to establishing a brewery, at Port Arthur with a capital of ¥300,000.

THE last of the steam lighters for the Bangkok service of the N. D. L. is nearing completion at the shipyard at Kooloon. She will be ready for launching about the 24th inst.

WE are continuously informed by the Colonial Secretary that quarantine restrictions imposed by the Government of Ceylon against arrivals from Hongkong have been removed.

FOURTEEN days' imprisonment was passed on YOUNG CHONG in the Police Court, on the 14th inst., for having appropriated \$3 worth of "black wood", the property of Cheong To, on the 14th.

THE American Navy Department announces that the battleship fleet will proceed direct from Gibraltar to Hampton Roads where it will be reviewed by the President on February 22, 1909.

A TRUGRAM from Tientsin to the *Nichi Nichi* states that some stone lances, stone axes, and spears, discovered on Liao-shan in Port Arthur. These articles are said to have been found in the Yuan and Shun dynasties, that is, 2357-1255 years before Christ.

AN unemployed Chinaman, Chan Yuk, of No. 111, Queen's Road Central, was given six months in prison, in the Police Court, last Wednesday, on the charge of having entered a house at 111, Queen's Road West on Tuesday night with the intention of committing a felony.

IN the Supreme Court on the 14th inst., FONG SUI, a contractor residing at 191, Des Voeux Road Central, brought an action against the Kiu firm, of 10, Kwong Yuen Street East, to recover the sum of \$53.20 for work done and material supplied. Evidence was given and the case was adjourned.

IT is reported that trees capable of yielding cork have been discovered in the woods at Turoku, in Formosa. The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha is endeavouring to manufacture corks from the trees. In this connection it is said that the import of cork from foreign countries amounts to about ¥5,000 annually.

LI KING, an eating-house coolie, was sent to prison last Wednesday at the Magistrate's, for having spat out an ear-pick from a woman in Queen's Road Central Tuesday. The charge having been proved, he was given one year's imprisonment and twelve strokes of the birch at entrance and at the expiration of his sentence.

THE charge against the Chinaman, for alleged embezzlement, was continued in the Police Court last Tuesday, when evidence was taken at length. The defendant was charged with having embezzled something like \$300 from the compradore of Messrs. H. Skott & Co., particulars of which we published in a recent issue. The hearing was further adjourned.

WITH reference to the letter from Government forwarding rules for the guidance of sanitary inspectors in making reports on nuisances under Part III. of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance for the information of the Building Authority, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper inquired:—I suppose these instructions refer to Government buildings as well as those owned by private individuals?

THE T'ien Chin-mining Co. apparently a *persona grata* to the members of the Central Government, for at a recent conference of the Grand Councilors and other High Ministers of State it was decided to recommend to their Majesties that Governor T'ien be removed from his present post and ordered to await some other appointment. Governor T'ien is a younger brother of the well-known ex-Viceroy of the Two Kwang provinces. H. E. T'ien Chun-hu.

TWO unemployed—coolie and a hawker—were the defendants in a case in the Police Court, on Tuesday. The defendant was charged with having stolen from him, yesterday, at 15, Cross Street, the sum of sixty cents. It was related that the defendants met the complainant in the house and during his absence took the money from his coat which was hanging on a peg in the wall. This they denied, and the case was adjourned.

FOUR street coolies were arraigned this morning before Mr. J. H. Kemp, in the Police Court, charged with stealing three pairs of European trousers and a bed sheet, valued at \$9, from the Steam Laundry. The larceny was alleged to have been committed between July 14th and 10th instant, and although evidence was adduced the charge could not be substantiated. Three of the defendants were discharged. The other man, who was in possession of the articles, was found guilty of unlawful possession, and fined \$100, or in default fourteen days' gaol.

THE Rev. I. Genzler begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations for the "Blind Home":

Sum air duly acknowledged \$779.47
A. Farce Sympathiser 10.00
American Board (Chinese) Hongkong 35.55
A Friend 10.00
St. Stephen's Church (Chinese) 41.20
Wesleyan Church (Chinese) 26.85
London Mission 50.97
American Bapt. Mission (Chinese) 49.40
Rhenish Mission 10.00

Total \$1,021.39

A COOLIE, Tsoi Chin, of 17, Aberdeen Street, was stopped in the street at about eight o'clock last night by a *lukung*. Tsoi was carrying a bundle. Suspecting something, the *lukung* demanded to see the contents. Tsoi only too willing to oblige, placed the bundle on the ground, and revealed to the amazed officer, the dead body of a three months' old male child, which, it was alleged, he was taking out to dump on the roadside. This morning, Tsoi was charged in the Police Court, with removing a dead body for "burial" without the sanction of the Sanitary Board. The case was remanded to find out whether the child had died from any contagious disease.

THE Colonial Secretary is notified that quarantine restrictions imposed against Hongkong at Newchwang have been removed.

MR. E. T. BEHRELL, the journalist who has recently been discharging himself in Korea, arrived at Shanghai on 8th inst. from Kobe, and is staying at the Hotel des Colonies.

FOR stealing a pair of scissors valued at 80 cents, Tsoi Hoi, a hawker, was sentenced to one month's imprisonment by Mr. J. H. Kemp last Monday. Li Ping, a tallyman, was fined \$30 for having in his possession one tail of prepared opium.

A MESSAGE says that the new Tongshan Coal Mine is exceedingly rich and the present output is great; and that what they have better machinery, and increase the number of miners, it will compare favourably with the adjoining Kaiping mines.—*China Critic*.

THE re-hearing of the case in which sentence was passed on a Chinese constable for stealing vegetables was continued before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistrate's last Monday afternoon. Mr. I. H. Gardiner, of Messrs. Brutton and Bell, appeared on behalf of the defendant.

Tsoi KING, a marine hawker, of 250, Queen's Road West, was charged at the Magistrate's last Monday, with having in his possession a few counterfeit silver coins and a brown leather portmanteau worth \$5, suspected to have been stolen. The case was remanded.

FINES of \$23 and \$3 respectively were imposed on two coolies for behaving in a riotous and disorderly manner in Queen's Road Central by fighting in the streets. Outside the market, it was alleged, without the necessary permission from the Captain Superintendent of Police.

THE *Atsuta-maru* will be launched from the Tategaki slips of the Mitsui Bishi Dockyard and Engine Works, Nagasaki, on the 21st inst., one week later than was originally intended. She is being built for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's European service and is a sister ship to the *Kamo-maru*.

ACCORDING to reports received by the executive bureau of the province of Iloilo have suffered greatly as a result of the overflowing of some of the rivers, many plantations being destroyed. The rice fields have felt the damage severely. In some parts the water rose to the height of three feet.

THE cruiser *Soya* (late the Russian *Varyag*) is to serve during the coming naval manoeuvres as the flagship of a specially appointed squadron under the command of Rear Admiral Kuramami. The cruiser *Asa* (late the Russian *Bayan*) will replace the *Soya* as the flagship of the training squadron.

THE Ministry of War has appointed Colonel T'ui Chen-hsiang to take charge of the drilling of the newly organized troops of Yunnan. He will take with him for the purpose ten foreign trained officers and one hundred sergeants and corporals selected from the Peiyang Army for their smartness and intelligence.

FOR keeping an opium divan in his house at No. 94, Stanley, without a license from the Colonial Secretary, and for having in his possession a small quantity of prepared opium for the purpose of opium dress without the knowledge of the authorities, Fan Ching was fined \$75 at the Police Court, last Monday.

THE net profit of the Kobe Sugar Refining Company for the last half year amounted to ¥3,260, including a surplus of ¥20,848 brought over from the preceding half year. Of this ¥3,400 has been placed to the reserve, ¥5,400 to the reserve against depreciation of buildings, machinery, and plant, and the balance of ¥4,550 is carried forward. No dividend has been declared.

HOI LIM, a trader, residing at 198, Queen's Road West, claimed from Tsang Hoi Lab, Tsang Yun Tung and Tsang Chun Sang, of Sai Wan Ho, Shau-ki-wai, the sum of \$500, money lent on a promissory note. Mr. Crowther Smith, appeared for the second and third defendants. Mr. E. J. Grist represented the first defendant, the latter failing to put in an appearance. The case was put over for further consideration.

IN the case of Cheong Ping Hang, residing at No. 10, Western Market, who sued Luong Hong Hing in the Supreme Court on the 14th inst., on the charge of having failed to pay the sum of \$350, the amount due as principal on a promissory note dated February 10, last, the case was adjourned to allow the plaintiff to show cause. Mr. Otto Kung Ning represented the plaintiff. Mr. E. J. Grist appeared for the defendant.

SINCE its opening a fortnight ago, the Grand Carlton Hotel has proved an extremely attractive caravansary for residents and visitors to the Colony. One of the buildings is crisscrossed with balconies, while the other is two vacant rooms. A fine billiard table by Burroughs and Watts has been installed, and a distinct innovation has been introduced inasmuch as guests are allowed to practise the game without the slightest charge. The Grand Carlton deserves to succeed as it is doing.

THE Chinese silver dollar, or Lungyang ("Dragon dollar" from the figure of the dragon on it), struck in the Tientsin Mint, seems to be rather unpopular, the Mexican dollar being generally preferred by the people. In view of this the *N. C. D. News* understands that the Mint authorities in Tientsin have petitioned Viceroy Yang Shih-shiang of that city to make arrangements with the Director-General of the Tientsin-Pukou line to the effect that the "Dragon" dollar shall be accepted as sole legal tender in favour of other silver dollars.

THE resumption of negotiations with the countries that have not yet signed the new Treaty with China seems rather abruptly postponed at the time of the war between Japan and Russia, is to take place in a month or so in Shanghai. Owing to the absence of the Chinese Treaty Commissioner H. E. Sheng Kuang-pao, who is at present in Japan on sick leave, negotiations will be opened by His Honour Tai, Tao-tai of this Port, who has been appointed by the Central Government to act for H. E. Sheng Kuang-pao *ad interim*.—*N. C. D. News*.

AT a recent Conference between the Buddhist Pontiff and some members of the Central Government the former requested that some high official should be appointed to Lhasa to take charge of the international relations of Tibet. The Dalai Lama also asked for enlightenment on the subject of etiquette when granted an Audience by their Imperial Majesties, and further wished to be told what would be his position in Tibet when allowed to return to that dependency. It was hinted that much would depend upon the result of his audience with their Majesties in whose hands was the Supreme Power in all matters concerning the Empire.

THE F. and O. Company's steamer *Somali*, which left London on 14th ultimo, took the following specie for Singapore:—Gold Silver, £1,875.

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd., announces that the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending October 3, 1908, amounted to 21,707.44 tons and the sales for the same period to 25,079.90.

A JAPANESE boarding-house keeper, who is the owner of a "ferocious" dog, which attempted the other day to chew off the leg of a ricksha coolie, was ordered, in the Police Court, last Tuesday, to pay \$4 compensation.

A Peking message says that the Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce proposes to hold a National Exhibition in the Metropolis in the Spring of next year, and will request the Wai-wupu to invite all foreign countries to send representatives to attend it.

THE result of investigations carried out by the Police in Kobe just completed shows that 4,798 cats are kept by the inhabitants of Kobe. Of this number, 1,777 are distributed among 30,938 families in the district under the jurisdiction of the Kobe Police, which has a human population of 117,117.

A STREET coolie was fined \$10 last Thursday, in the Police Court, for being in unlawful possession of a quantity of wood-work, the property of the Hongkong Land Investment Co., Ltd. The wood was taken from 86, Praya East, on Wednesday. Mr. F. J. Elms, the company's overseer, prosecuted.

FOR not placing a stamp on a receipt a boarding-house runner was fined \$25 last Tuesday in the Police Court. The sum of the bill was \$32. The defence was that he had always dealt in small sums. This was the first time he had ever transacted in such large sums, and he did not know the law.

THE Japanese squadron which is to welcome the American Fleet will be under Vice-Admiral Ito, and will comprise nineteen men-of-war, with crews numbering in all 11,364 men. The American fleet consists of twenty-two men-of-war with 13,253 men. It is expected at Yokohama on scheduled time.

A SENTENCE of fourteen days' hard labour was passed on a tailor in the Police Court, last Tuesday, for stealing a door from a house in Bridges Street, on Wednesday. Accused, it was alleged, made an attempt to enter the house by breaking down the door, and, falling, having aroused the inmates, he took away the door.

THE return of samples examined under "The Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance, 1866," for the quarter ended September 30, 1908, as certified by Mr. Frank Browne, the Government Analyst, shows that there were nine samples of milk and six of whisky. Of this number, all have been found genuine and none adulterated.

A LIBEL action will take place at an early date in the Netherlands Consular Court, Shanghai. The plaintiff is Mr. D. Stratton, an engineer in charge of the dredging work which is being carried out at Wootung under the Wharfedale Conservancy Board, and he is claiming damages against a Dutchman named A. Renaud for alleged libel.

LIEUTENANT Ronald H. C. Hallifax has been appointed navigating lieutenant of the despatch ship *Alacrity* of the China Squadron. Lieut. Hallifax has served for a little over six years in the navy and recently qualified as "navigator," and for some months has served in that capacity aboard the ocean-going destroyer *Tartar*, one of the swiftest of her type afloat.

THE *Shanghai* publishes a telegram from Tientsin stating that money is exceedingly tight in that city and that business is suffering. In view of this state of affairs, the Viceroy, H. E. Yang Shih-shiang, has instructed the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Tientsin to devise methods to remedy matters in order to avoid the threatened financial crisis.

AT the time of our representative's visit to Kowloon Dock on the 10th inst., it was observed that H. M. destroyer *Whiting* was completing her extensive repairs in the No. 2 dock. She has been practically under repair since the 10th inst. and her work was being carried out by the Dock Co.'s staff under Mr. Wilson. The Naval artificers and mechanics are attending to all other work.

THE *Bangkok Times* learns that M. Hardouin, formerly French Consul in Bangkok, who is at present at Home, is coming out again on a mission to China. M. Genevet, also formerly on the staff of the French Legation at Bangkok, has been appointed on the cabinet of the Governor-General of Indo-China, and is coming out to Hanoi shortly. He will be accompanied by Mme. Genevet.

A Peking dispatch states that His Majesty the Emperor's health has now so far improved that orders have been sent down to the various Viceroys and Governors not to send any more physicians to the Capital. When His Majesty became ill a few months ago a Rescript was issued by the Empress Dowager commanding Viceroys, Governors and Tartar Generals throughout the Empire to recommend the best physicians within their jurisdiction to attend upon the Emperor.

AN Indian watchman engaged in looking after a building under erection in Des Voeux Street, was ordered to leave the premises last Thursday, a coolie and to his opinion a "dangerous" person. He accused the coolie of entering his watch and stealing a \$5 pair of boots, which he had but recently bought, and with carrying offensive weapons, to wit, a pocket-knife and a file. The coolie was taken before Mr. J. R. Wood, and to the great astonishment of *shih*, was discharged, both charges not being proven.

OWING to the prohibition issued by Viceroy Chang Jen-chun of Canton against coolie recruiting within his jurisdiction of the Two Kwang provinces by agents of countries requiring such labour to thin their territories, agents have been compelled to resort to all sorts of new devices to obtain coolies. It is now stated that certain persons have been recently engaged in Central Manchuria—all places in China—in trying to obtain coolies for Mexico. These attempts, however, the Viceroy of Manchuria is also determined to stop.

A HAWKER, Chan Chong, had to pay \$8 in the Police Court, last Thursday, for assaulting a policeman in Queen's Road West, on Wednesday night. Chan was arrested on a charge of theft, but this was not substantiated. It was alleged that he entered an opium divan at 303, Queen's Road West and called for a smoke. When the paraphernalia was placed before him, Chan, so it was alleged, picked up the pipe and proceeded to make himself scarce. But he was caught nevertheless, and when taken in charge by a *lukung* he made an attempt to escape, striking the officer in so doing.

JAPANESE labourers to the number of about 850 have been engaged by the Meiji Colonisation Company for Peru. The emigrants were to leave Yokohama by a French steamer direct for Peru.

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Co.'s total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending 26th Sept. 1908, amounted to 20,187.51 tons, and the sales during the period to 24,818.20 tons.

A NEW YORK special to the *Shanghai Times* of 5th inst. says:—The newspapers are publishing a report that His Excellency Tang Shao-yi's real mission to this country is to succeed H. E. Wu Ting-fang as Minister.

THE Chefoo Railway, which the Germans are constructing in Shantung, is being strongly opposed by the Waiwupu. The Chinese claim that this railway is contrary to the agreement and treaties between the two countries.

OUR readers will be interested to note that Mr. Montalto de Jesus is to read a paper before the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society on the afternoon of the 8th inst. on "The Opening of Shanghai."—*Shanghai Times*.

TEN dollars or 14 days was the sentence passed on Cheung Mao Hui, a married woman, for destroying some fine trees belonging to Government on the hillside near Wong-ai-cheung. As the woman could not find the money, she will be idle for a fortnight at the Victoria Gaol.

AT the Police Court, on the 10th inst., Inspector Fenton charged two men with keeping a common gaming house at No. 8, Moon Street, and nine others with taking part in the gambling. A fine of \$100 was imposed on the first and second defendants; while the others had each to pay \$5.

WE understand that the first shallow draft gunboat built in England for the Portuguese Government for service in Macao waters is due to arrive in Hongkong some time in December. She is being sent out in sections by her builders, and will be put together in Hongkong.

THE Japanese Government announces the total prohibition of the *pari mutuel* at races, including those of the Nippon Race Club, on the ground that it is incompatible with the new moral code and detrimental to social morality. It is pointed out that no effective measures of control are available.

IT is with the deepest regret, says the *Hankow Daily News* of the 8th inst., that we have to record the death, which occurred yesterday of Mr. K. Arakami, manager of the Yokohama Specie Bank. The deceased, who has been a resident of Hankow for only three months, succumbed to typhoid fever.

ANOTHER person has been arrested at Hankow on a charge of forgery. Apparently, also, and plates for forging Hupoh Government banknotes were found in his possession, says the *Hankow Daily News*, and all of them were made. The arrest was effected at Tientsin by native soldiers.

CHENG CHUNG, a shop coolie, of Bonham Street, was prosecuted in the Police Court, this morning (15th inst.), for assaulting a woman at 1, Yat Fu Lane at half past twelve o'clock this morning, and damaging property to the extent of one and a half dollars. Cheng, it was asserted, had a dispute with the woman and struck her on the face. In his anger he proceeded to demolish a partition, but was stopped after he had done damage to the extent mentioned above. He was fined one dollar for the assault, and also ordered to compensate the complainant for the damage done to the house.

A FEW days ago the merchants and gentry of Peking called a meeting to discuss how they could best express their thanks and gratitude to the United States for returning a pair of Boxer indemnity to China, and passed the following resolutions:—1.—That at the coming celebration of the granting of a constitution a board bearing suitable inscriptions be hung up to commemorate the event. 2.—That on the same occasion a deputation of representatives of merchants, students and gentry should proceed with a band at their head to the American Legation to express thanks to the American Minister. 3.—That a bronze medalion with suitable inscriptions on it be sent to the United States Government. 4.—That the Wang Shun-chi be made chairman of the committee to carry the above resolutions into effect. —*China Critic*.

OUR Tokio correspondent sends us the full programme of entertainments that has been drawn up by the Tokio and four other principal Chambers of Commerce for the forthcoming reception of commercial guests from the American Pacific coast. The programme extends from October 24, when a banquet is given by the Associated Chambers of Commerce, to November 4, when the visitors leave Japan for home. Apart from luncheons and evening parties given successively by the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Yokohama Specie Bank, Baron Shibusawa, the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, Admiral Tono Marquis Katsura and the Municipalities of Tokio and Yokohama, a number of pleasure excursions have been arranged. Thus the American guests will be enabled to visit Nikko, Kamakura, Yoshino, Hakone, Kioto and Osaka, so that they should be able to form an excellent opinion of Japan from both pictorial and business points of view in a few days with them to their homes.—*N. C. D. News*.

THE similarity of the Japanese word *typhoon* to sound to the English *typhoon*, which has the same meaning, is generally considered to indicate fairly obvious that both words have common origin in the Chinese *typhoon* (great wind), especially when the name is applied only to certain meteorological phenomena peculiar to Eastern waters. In these circumstances it is rather surprising to find that lexicographers are divided on this question, many of them maintaining that *typhoon* is derived, through the Latin *typhon*, from the Greek *typhon*, a violent whirlwind, so called because it was held to be the work of Typhon, a god struck with lightning by Jupiter, and buried under Mount Etna. The god was often held to typify a violent wind. Going farther back, we find Typhon in Egyptian mythology as the God of Evil. That the English word is derived from the Greek through the Latin *typhon*, seems clearly established, because the word is found with slight modifications in all the languages derived from Latin. The fact that the word *typhon*, having exactly the same meaning as the Chinese word, of the same sound, existed in Western languages before with Chinese and can't even be traced back to Egyptian mythology, appears to be more than a coincidence, though it is regarded as such by some authorities.—*John Chalmers*.

Shipping.

VESSELS IN PORT.

STEAMERS.

Anhui, Br. s.s., 1,550 G. T. Tons, 15th Oct.—Cebu and Iloilo: 10th Oct. Sugar—B. & O. Appalachee, Br. s.s., 2,475, Swatow, 6th Oct. San Francisco and Swatow 10th Oct. Ballast—S. O. Co.
Assama, Br. s.s., 2,703 G. T. Tons, 15th Oct.—New York 4th Aug. and Sabang 3rd Oct. Karoline Oil—S. O. Co.
Asia, Br. s.s., 2,157, Harry Gathroper, 8th Oct.—San Francisco 8th Sept., Honolulu 4th, Yokohama 26th, Kobe 27th, Nagasaki 29th, and Manila 6th Oct. Mails and Gen.—O. & S. S. Co.
Assaye, Br. s.s., 3,000 G. T. Tons, 15th Oct.—Bombay and Singapore 10th Oct. Mails and Gen.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Avala, Br. s.s., 2,386, Hume, 10th Oct.—Philadelphia 15th Aug. and Sabang 30th Sept. Karoline Oil—S. O. Co.
Bormeo, Ger. s.s., 1,344, F. Sembill, 8th Oct.—Sandakan 3rd Oct. Gen.—M. & C.
Bourbon, Fr. s.s., 997, Le Bail, 12th Oct.—Saigon 7th Oct. Gen.—Man Fat.
Chibilly, Br. s.s., 1,143, J. Warrack, 16th Oct. Telephone 10th Oct. and Hollow 15th. Coal and Gen.—B. & S. Co.
China, Aust. s.s., 3,815, Bergum, 16th Oct.—Tientsin 27th Sept. and Singapore 7th Oct. Gen.—S. W. & Co.
Chip Shing, Br. s.s., 1,100, F. Hooney, 16th Oct.—Canton 15th Oct. Gen.—J. M. & Co.
Delia, Br. s.s., 4,780, B. W. Snow, 16th Oct.—Shanghai 15th Oct. Mails and Gen.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Draught, Nor. s.s., 1,102, J. Bing,

SHARE QUOTATIONS

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOORIE & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page.

Corrected 16th October, 100 cts. per S Max

BUTCHER MEAT.

Beef sirloin & prime cut—Mei Lung Pa B
 " Corned—Ham Ngau Yuk
 " Roast—Shin "
 " Breast—Ngau Lam
 " Soup, Tong Yuk
 " Steak—Ngau Yuk Pa
 " " Sirloin—Ngau Lau
 " Sausages,—Ngau Yuk Chaung
 Billock's Brains— " Know..... per set
 " Tongue fresh—Ngau Li..... each
 " " corned—Ham Ngau Li.....
 " Head—Ngau Tau
 " Heart—Ngau Sum per B
 " Hump, Salt—Ngau Kin
 " Feet—Ngau Keok each
 " Kidneys—Ngau Yiu.....
 " Tail—Ngau Mei
 " Liver—Ngau Con B
 " Tripe (undressed)—Ngau To.....
 Calves' Head and Feet—Ngau-chai-
 tau-keok..... set \$1.
 Mutton Chop—Young Pui Kwat B
 " Leg—Young Pei
 " Shoulder—Young Shau
 Pigs' Chittlings—Chi cheong
 " Brains—Chi Know..... per set
 " Feet—Chi Keok.....
 " Fry—Chi Chak
 " Head—Chi Tau
 " Heart—Chi Sum..... each
 " Kidneys—Chi Yiu pair
 " Livers—Chi Kon B
 Pork, Chop—Chi Pui Kwat
 " Corned—Ham Chu Yuk
 " Leg—Chu Pei
 " Fat or Lard—Chu Yau
 Sheep's Head and Feet—Young Tau
 Keok set
 " Heart—Young Sum..... each
 " Kidneys—Young Yiu
 " Liver—Young Con..... B
 Sucking Pigs, To Order—Chu Chal ...
 Suet Beef—Sang Ngau Yau
 " Mutton—Sang Young Yau
 Veal—Ngau Chai Yuk.....
 " Sausages—Ngau Chai Yuk Tong.....

PŮLTRY

Chicken—Kai Chai	lb
Capon, Large, Small—Sin Kai.....	"
Ducks—Ap	"
Doves—Pan Kau	each
Eggs, Hen—Kai Tan	per doz
Fowls, Canton—Kai	lb
Hainan—Hoi Nam Kai	"
Geese—Ngo	"
Geese, Wild Shanghai—Sheung Hoi Ye Ngo	pair
Musk Deer—Wong Keng	each
Hare—Tu Chai	"
Partridge—Che Khoo	"
Pheasant—Shan Kai	pair
Pigeons, Canton—Fak Kup	each
Holhow—Holhow Pak Kup	"
Quail—Um-Ghoo	"
Rice Birds—Wo Fa Cheuk	dosen
Snipe—Sa Chui	each
Turkeys, Cock—Fo Kai Kung ...	per lb
Hen—" " Na	"
Wild Ducks, Shanghai, Sui-ap	pair
Teal, Shanghai, Sui Ap Chai	"
Wild Ducks Canton—Sang Shing Sui Ap	per pair

FISH.

Harbel—Ka Yu	2
Bream—Blin Yu	3
Cáutor Fresh Water Fish—Hol-Sin-Yu	3
Carp—Li Yu	3
Catfish—Chik Yu	3
Codfish—Mun Yu	3
Crabs—Hai	3
Cuttle Fish—Muk Yu	3
Dab—Sa Mang Yu	3
Dace—Wong Mei Lun	3
Dog Fish—Tít Yu Sa	3
Eels, Congor—Hai Man Yu	3
— Fresh water—Tam-Sui-Yu	3
— Yellow—Wong Sin	3
Frogs—Tien Kal	3
Garoupa—Sek Pan	3
Gudgeon—Pak Kup Yu	3
Harrings—Tao Pak	3
Halibut—Cheung Kwan Yu	3
Labrus—Wong Fa Yu	3
Loach—Wu Yu	3
Lobsters—Lung Ha	3
Mackerel—Ohl Yu	3
Monk Fish—Mon Yu	3
Mullet—Chai Yu	3
Oysters—Sang Hoo	3
Parrotfish—Kai Kung Yu	3
Perch—Tau Loo	3
Pike—Fa Pa Poong	3
Plaice—Fan Yu	3
Pomfret, Black—Hak Chong	3
Pomfret, White—Pak Chong	3
Prawns—Ming He	3
Ray—Pal Pa Sa	3
Rock Fish—Sek Kau Kung	3
Roach—Chau Yu	3
Salmon, (Osteo), fresh water—Ma Yu	3
Yu	3

FRUITS.

	Cents.
Shark—Sa Yu	10
Skate—Po Yu	11
Shrimps—Ha	11
Snapper—Lap Yu	26
Soles—Tat Sa Yu	28
Teach—Wan Yu	18
Turbot—Cho Hong Yu	26
Turtles, small, fresh water—Keok Yu	60
White Bait—Ngan Yu Chai	—
FRUITS.	
Almond—Hung Yan	28
Apples, (California)—Kam Saa Ping Ko	20
" (Chefoo)—Tin Chun Ping Ko	15
" Small—Hoi Toang	7
" Custard—Fan Lai Chai	7
Bananas, fragrant, Canton—Sang Sheng Heung Chiu	5
" (brides), Macao—San Heung Chiu	6
Chestnuts, Chinese—Foong Lut	10
Carambola—Yeung Tou	10
Cocoanuts—Yeh Tsi	10
Grapes—Sin Tai Tsi	26
Lemons, China—Ning Moong	6
" Amer.—Kum San Ning Moong	8
Lichees, Small Stone—Lai Chi Con	20
" Fresh, Lai Chi	7
Lime, (Saigon)—Sai Kung Ning Moong	7
Mango, Manila—Lui Sung Moong	—
Mango, Saigon—Sai Kung Moong	—
Mangosteens, San Chuk Tsi per 100	7
Oranges, Tim Chang	—
" Small—Tai Kut	—
" Mandarin—Tim Kut	—
Olives—Pak Lam	8
Passion Fruit	each
Pears, (American)—Kam San Shut Li	—
" (Canton), Cooking—Sa Li	14
" (Shanghai)—Sheung Hoi Li	18
Peanuts,—Fa Sang	6
Perispermum, Large,—Hung Chie	10
Pine-apples, 1st quality—Sheung Poon Ti Paw-law	—
" and cooking—Chung-tang	—
" Paw-law	—
Plantains—Tai Chiu	3
Plums, Siawto—Hung Lai	—
Pumelo, Siam—Chim Lo Yau	14
Walnuts, Hop Tou	12
" Green—Sang Hop Tou	—
Shanghai Lo Kwat	10

VEGETABLES, &c.

Artichokes, Shanghai,—Sheung Hoi Ah	
Chi Chau	B
Beans, (French) Macao—Oh Mopn Pin	
Tau	10
Beans, (French), Shanghai—Sheung Hoi	
Pin Tau	8
Beans, Sprout—Ah Choi	7
Beans, Long—Tau Kok	7
Beet Root—Hung Chai Tau	each
Wong-jai green—Cheng Yuen Ker	7
Brinjals, Red—Hung Ker	5
Braised—Pak Choi	4
Bamboo Shoots—Chook Shun	4
Cabbage, Chinese, com.—Kai Choy	4
Cabbage, Red—Kai Lán Tau	each
Cabbage, (Shanghai)—Yeh Choi	10
Cane Shoots, bunch—Kau Shun	10
Cauliflower, Large size—Tái Yeh Choi	
Fá	each
Cauliflower, Medium size—Cheung Yeh	
Choi-fá	each
Cauliflower, Small size—Sai Yeh Choi-fá	
Carrots—Kam Shun	10
Celery, Chinese—Toong Kan Choy	10
Celery, English—Yung Kan Choi	10
Celery, White—Pak Yung Kan Choi	10
Chillies, Dried—Con Lat Chiú	10
Red—Hong Fá	10
Green—Cheng Lat Chiú	10
Curry Stuff, English—Ka Lee Choi Liu	
Cucumbers—Cheng Kwa	10
Bitter Squash—Fu Kwa	10
Garlic—Suen Tau	10
Ginger, young—Sun Tsí Keung	10
old—Lo Keung	10
Horseradish, Shanohai—Lik Kan	B

WHARVES & GODOWNS.

Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited

Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co.....

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.....

Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.

Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.

Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.

Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)

Central Stores, Limited

Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited

Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.....

Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited

Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited

Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited

West Point Building Company, Limited

COTTON MILLS.

Anglo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited

Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dressing Company, Limited

International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Limited

Shanghai-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.

Shanghai Spinning Company, Limited

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. Jilin Astoria Eastern Agency, Limited
 2. Jinhua-Borneo Company, Limited.....
 3. China Light and Power Company, Limited ..
 4. Do. Do. special shares ..
 5. China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company
 6. Jiaxing Farm Company, Limited
 7. Green Island Cement Company, Limited
 8. Price & Company, Limited
 9. Hall & Holtz, Limited
 10. Jiaxing Electric Company, Limited
 11. Jiaxing Ice Company, Limited
 12. Jiaxing Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited
 13. Maatschappij tot Mijn-, Bosch- en Landbe-
 14. plooiatie in Langkat, Limited
 15. Peak Tramways Company, Limited
 16. Peak Tramways Company, (new)
 17. Philippine Company, Limited
 18. Shanghai Gas Company, Limited
 19. Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited
 20. Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited.....
 21. Shing China Mortar Post, Limited
 22. Sincere Laundry Company, Limited
 23. Sincere Waterworks Company, Limited
 24. Sincere Waterboat Company, Limited
 25. Sincere Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited
 26. Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited.....
 27. Williams & Co., Limited

* These shares are entitled to half of the profits.

SHARE QUOTATIONS

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STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT.		LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION, BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
				RESERVE.	AT WORKING ACCOUNT.			
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	120,000	\$125	\$125	{ \$1,500,000 \$14,000,000 \$150,000 }	\$2,005,774	{ Interim of £2 for first half year @ ex 1/94 = \$21.942	5 1/2 %	{ \$795 buyers London £80
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	{ \$4,000 \$150,000 }	\$10,323	\$2 (London 3/6) for 1903	...	\$50
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$1,500,000 \$219,058 \$401,959 \$125,000 Tls. 100,000 Tls. 48,942 }	none	\$20 for 1906	10	\$200
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 204,424	Interim of 7/6 ex 2/54 for 1907	6 1/2 %	Tls. 82 buyers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	14,400	\$350	\$100	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$2,506,011	{ Final of \$15 making \$45 for 1906 and Interim of \$30 for 1907	5 1/2 %	\$785
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	11,000	\$100	\$60	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$591,763	\$12 and bonus \$3 for 1906	9 %	\$167 1/2 buyers
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$20	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$172,432	\$6 and bonus \$2 for 1906	8 1/2 %	\$95 sales
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$428,027	\$27 for 1906	8 %	\$335
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$1,035	\$1 for 1906	...	\$15
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Nil.	\$2 1/2 for year ending 30.4.1908	10 %	\$24 1/2
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	17,755	\$3 1/2 for first half-year ending 30.6.08	7 1/2 %	\$28 1/2 buyers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Preferred) ..	60,000	£5	£5	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	£13,755	{ 6 1/2 for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/9 11/16 = \$3.154	5 1/2 %	{ \$35 \$20
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 4,510	Interim of Tls. 1 1/2 for account 1908	7 1/2 %	Tls. 47 sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Company, Limited	1,000,000	£1	£1	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	£63,817	{ Final of 1/- making 3/- for 1907 and 1/- Interim of 1/- (No. 10) for a/c 1908	6 1/2 %	Tls. 51 buyers
Star Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$08	{ \$1.00 \$0.50 } for year ending 30.4.1908	{ 4 1/2 3 1/2 % }	{ \$25 \$15
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	10,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 6,869	Final of Tls. 2 1/2 making Tls. 5 for 1907	11 %	Tls. 45 buyers
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Dr. \$279,371	\$8 for year ending 31.12.06	...	\$120
Union Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Dr. \$135,138	\$5 for 1907	...	\$22
arak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ \$3,000,000 \$200,000 \$202,478 \$189,095 \$727,649 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 9,473	Tls. 4 (6 %) for year ending 31.8.06	...	Tls. 90 buyers
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£1	£1	{ \$150,000 \$12,289 \$4,893 }	£11,556	Interim of 1/6 (No. 10) for account 1908	7 1/2 %	Tls. 16 1/2 sellers
South Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited {	150,000	£1	18/10	{ \$150,000 \$12,289 \$4,893 }	Dr. £4,191	No. 12 of 1/- = 48 cents	...	57
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$3,726	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.06	...	11 1/2
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$9,556	Final of \$1 1/2 making \$3 1/2 for 1907	7 %	\$50
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$84,847	Interim of \$4 for account 1908	8 1/2 %	'93 buyers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 33,742	{ Final of Tls. 2 1/2 making in all Tls. 4 for year ending 30.4.08	6 %	Tls. 82
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited ...	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 12,626	Interim of Tls. 4 for account 1908	11 %	Tls. 152 1/2 buyers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 6,531	Tls. 6 for 1907	6 %	Tls. 98 sales
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai) ...	30,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Dr. 24 2 0	\$2 1/2 for year ending 30.6.07	...	16
Central Stores, Limited	50,123	\$15	\$15	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	10,178	\$1.80 for 1906	...	124 buyers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$14,639	Interim of \$3 for account 1908	9 1/2 %	77 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd. ...	50,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	13,915	Interim of \$3 1/2 for account 1908	7 1/2 %	\$94
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	4,621	70 cents for 1907	7 1/2 %	\$9 buyers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	5653	\$1 1/2 for 1907	6 1/2 %	\$27
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 107,517	Interim of Tls. 3 for account 1908	7 %	Tls. 115 buyers
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$1,541	Interim of \$2 for account 1908	9 %	16
COTTON MILLS.								
Indo China Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 8,807	Tls. 2 1/2 for year ended 31.10.1907	4 %	Tls. 65 buyers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	\$20	\$20	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	9,553	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08	6 1/2 %	104
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 8,519	Tls. 6 for year ended 30.9.06 (8 %)	...	164 buyers
Indo-Kang-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 6,308	Tls. 8 for 1906	...	179 sales
Sing Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 40,663	Tls. 50 for 1906	...	Tls. 240
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	£148	1 10/16 per share for 1907 = \$1.037	13 1/2 %	27 1/2 sales
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	\$12	\$12	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Nil.	\$1.20 for 1907	2 1/2 %	\$10
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	125,000	60 cents for year ended 28.2.06	...	\$6
Do, Do, special shares	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$8,593	80 cents for 1907	8 1/2 %	\$6 1/2 buyers
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	195,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$50,000	\$1.30 for year ending 31.7.07	5 1/2 %	174
Wai Yee Farm Company, Limited	25,000	\$7 1/2	\$6	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$2,974	Interim of \$4 for account 1908	12 1/2 %	\$10 sales
Wai Yee Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	15,078	75 cents for 9 months ending 31.12.07	8 %	\$12 buyers
Wai Yee Price & Company, Limited	12,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$251	\$2 for year ending 28.2.08	10 %	\$20 sellers
Wai Yee Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	8,957	\$1 and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 29.2.08	6 1/2 %	\$18
Wai Yee Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$9,321	Interim of \$4 for account 1908	8 1/2 %	\$235
Wai Yee Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$4,578	Interim of \$1 for account 1908	8 %	\$25
Wai Yee Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$8,191	Interim of Tls. 10 for 2nd quarter	5 %	Tls. 65 1/2
Wai Yee Mississippi Pot Mine, Bosch on Landbouw- exploitatie in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Ga. 100	Ga. 100	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Tls. 17,127	{ 80 cents on fully paid shares and 6 cents on \$1 paid shares for year ending 30.4.08	6 1/2 %	\$14
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	\$7,471	None	4 1/2 %	\$8
Peak Tramways Company (new)	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,801 \$1,253,941 }	Nil.	Final of Tls. 4 making Tls. 7 1/2 for 1907	6 1/2 %	Tls. 117 1/2
Philippine Company, Limited	75,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$53,601 \$10,000 \$26,866 \$40,000 \$76,197 \$100,000 \$24,000 \$1,000,000 \$85,157 \$				

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